

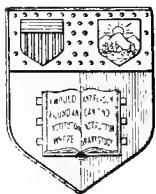
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The book of Hamburgs; all varieties—silv



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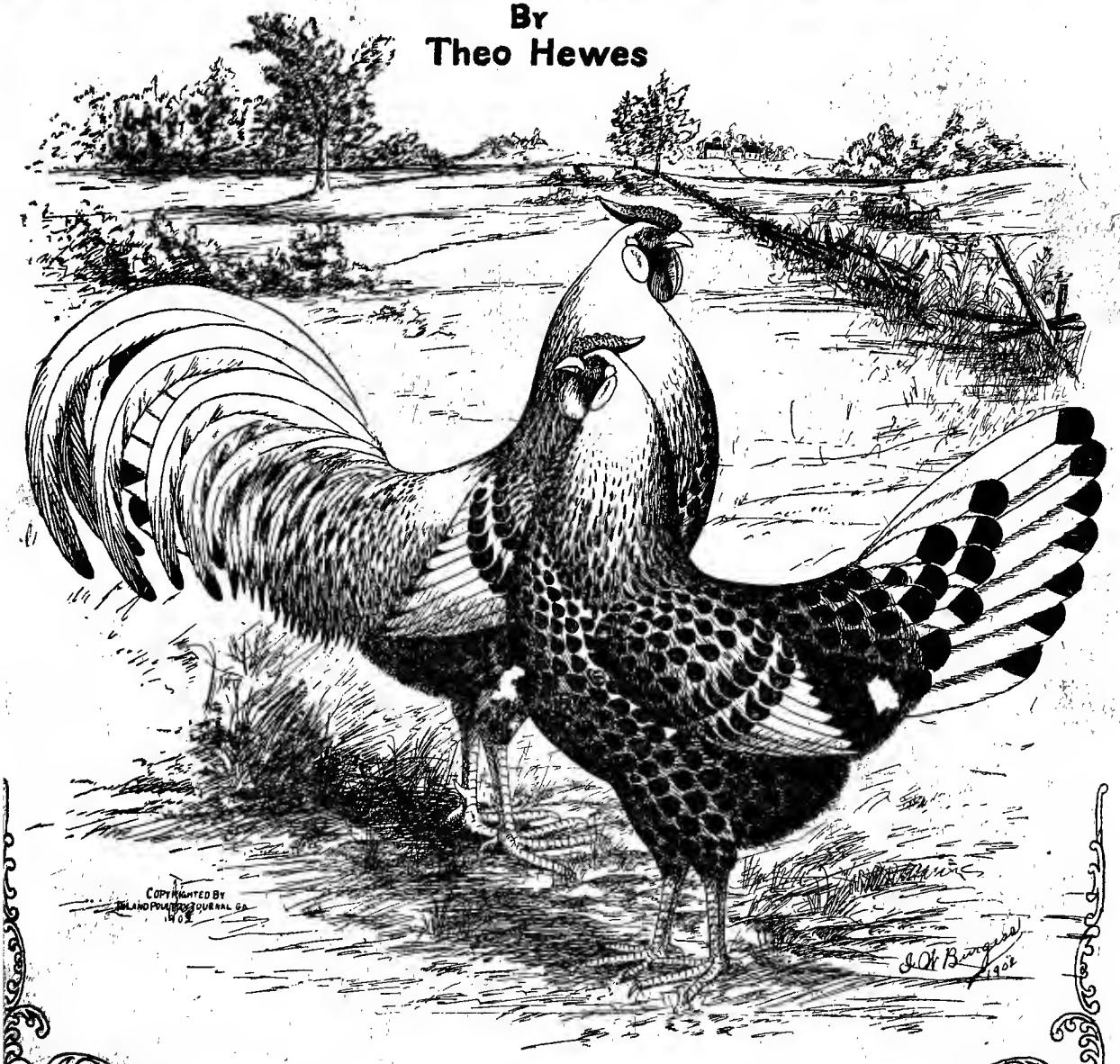


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THE BOOK OF THE HAMBURGS

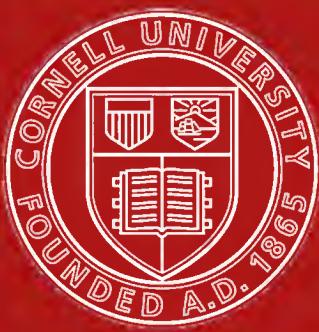
By
Theo Hewes



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THE BOOK OF THE HAMBURGS

ALL VARIETIES--SILVER AND GOLDEN SPANGLED, SILVER
AND GOLDEN PENCILED, AND BLACK AND WHITE. ♥ ♥

An Illustrated Hamburg Standard. Each variety fully illustrated and described, section by section. How to mate, with correct methods of scoring and judging.

By THEO. HEWES, Indianapolis, Ind.

HISTORICAL NOTES,

By DR. H. P. CLARKE, Indianapolis, Ind.

PRICE, 50 CENTS.

Published by
Inland Poultry Journal Company,
Indianapolis, Ind.
1912.

OUR EFFORTS HAVE NOT BEEN WASTED

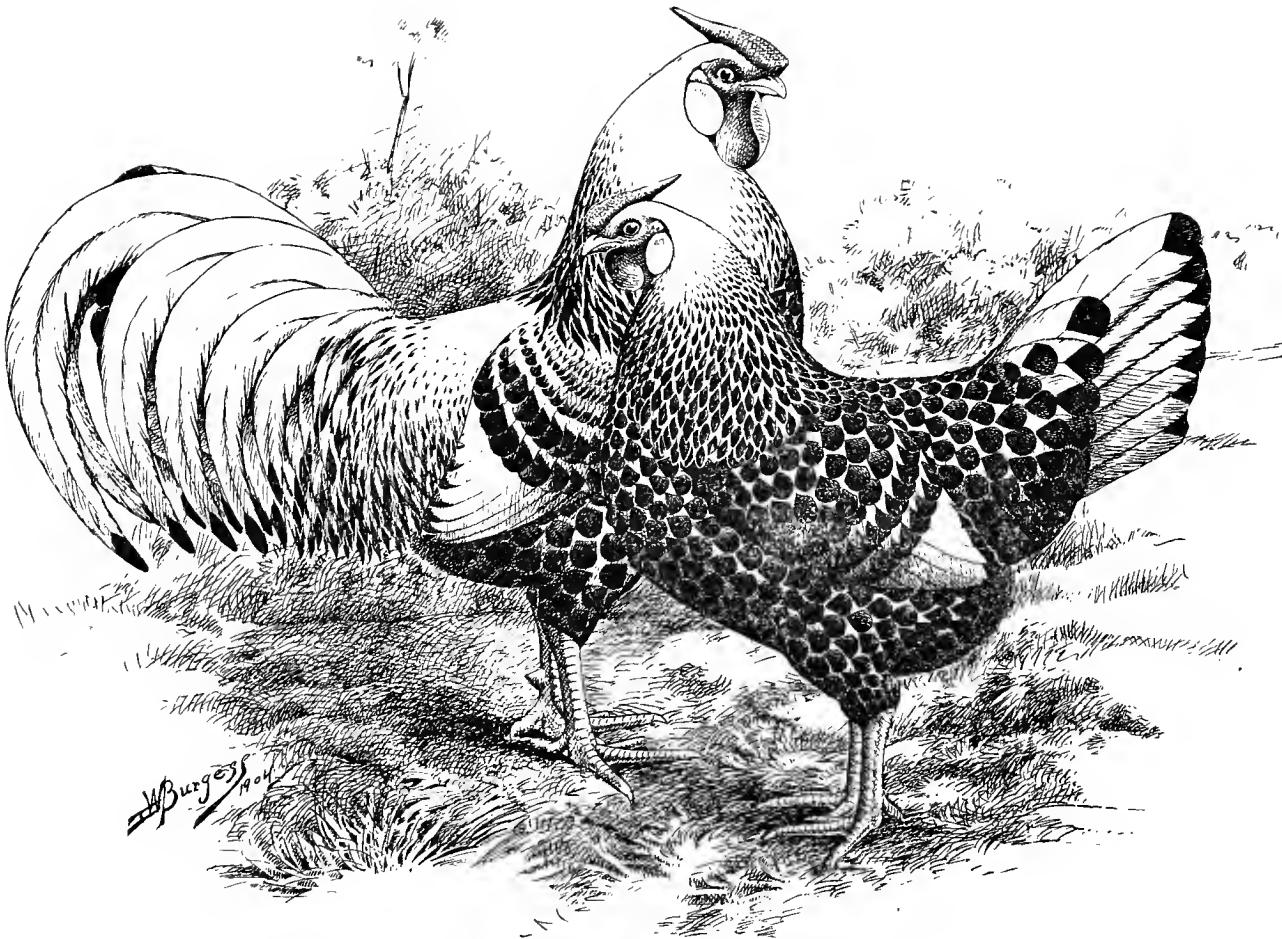
Third Edition Necessary.

We doubt if there was ever any one Standard breed so sadly neglected, or bred with such general indifference, as the Hamburg in its several varieties at the time that this book was first placed on the market. There were but few Hamburgs in any of the varieties found in our largest shows, and those few were usually inferior in shape and color, in fact the breed had reached a point where fanciers looked upon them as a joke, while the judges had about as many ideas as to correct shape and color as there were judges awarding prizes. As an illustration: At the Illinois State Show a few years prior to the issuing of this book a Silver Spangled Hamburg male was scored by a well known judge $94\frac{1}{2}$ points, while females in the same show were scored as high as $95\frac{1}{2}$ points. A careful inspection of the specimens failed to produce one single feather, in male or female, that was true in markings as understood by the fanciers at the present time. The markings on all of these birds were crescentic rather than sharp spangles and each and every one of them had been scored at least ten points too high. We found the same condition in the penciled varieties as in the spangled. The judges were honest but simply did not know what constituted perfection, and there was such a small number of birds found in competition that they did not busy themselves to learn what really did constitute perfection, and of course the breeders were satisfied so long as they could win no matter what the shape or color of their birds might be.

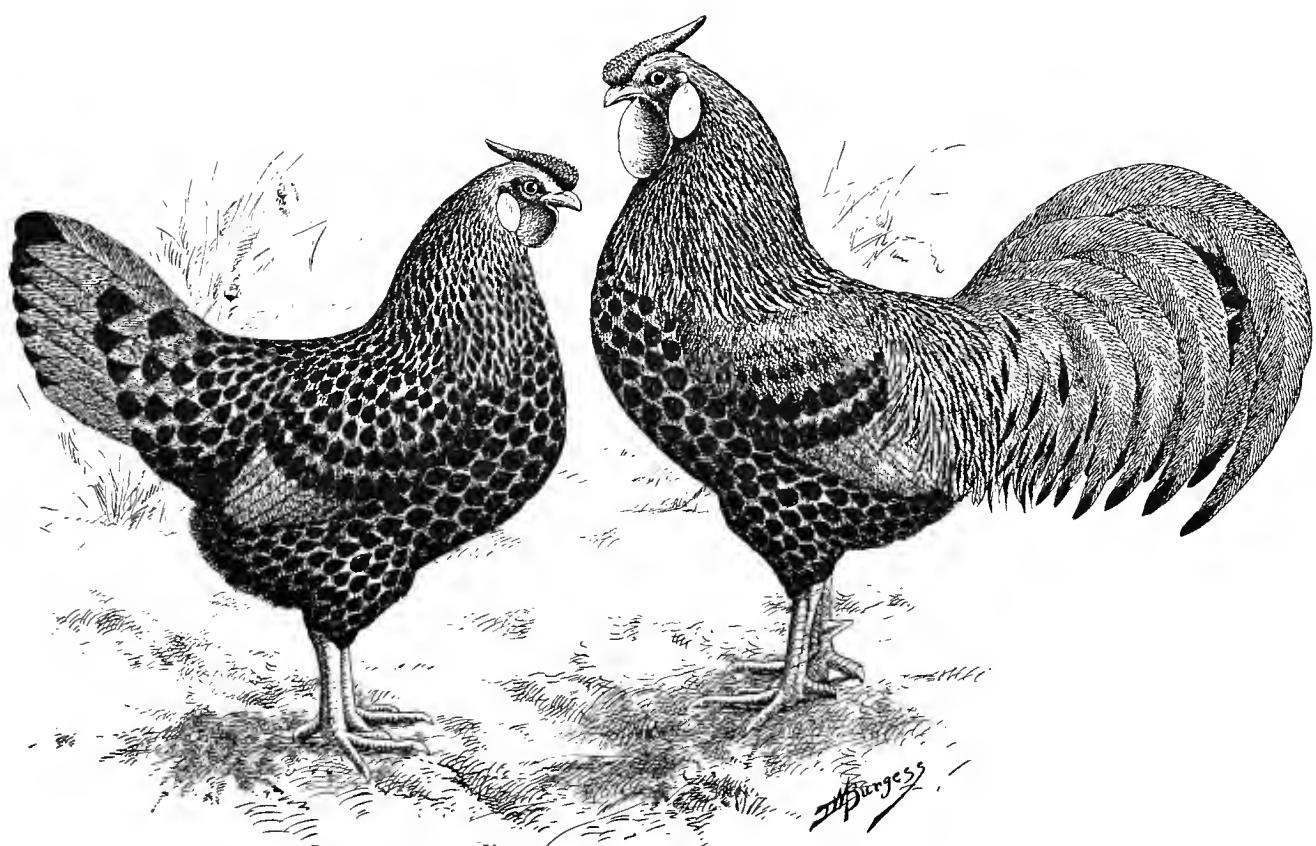
It was this condition that led us to put out the book of The Hamburgs, believing that a better knowledge of the breed would be the means of getting more people interested in them and gradually breed up the several varieties until they would be what the Standard makers intend they should, one of the handsomest of the smaller breeds. The result of our efforts has been entirely satisfactory and has brought to the Hamburgs many of the best fanciers of this country, men and women who are interested in the best and will stop at nothing short of it. They have learned how to mate birds correctly and the general type and size of the breed has improved with it. Today we find in the leading shows in the country, large classes of strictly high class specimens. At the Chicago Show in 1911 there were 47 birds in the Silver Spangled class alone, and there was not a poor one in the entire lot, while the winning males in both cocks and cockerels were a little short of marvelous. In females we have found so many good ones during the past few years, that we feel that we have really done something for this meritorious breed.

This is our third edition of the book, and it is going to the fanciers with the hope that it may encourage them to still greater efforts in the production of high class exhibition specimens of all varieties of the Hamburgs.

EDITOR.



PAIR OF IDEAL SILVER SPANGLED HAMBURGS.



PAIR OF IDEAL GOLDEN SPANGLED HAMBURGS.

HISTORICAL NOTES.

The Hamburg of Ancient Lineage—One of the Oldest Fowls in Existence --Its Relation to Other Breeds--The Redcaps and Campines.

By DR. H. P. CLARKE, Indianapolis, Ind.

HAMBURGS.

WHILE the Game as a fighting cock and the Dorking as a table fowl can claim more ancient lineage than the subject of this sketch, the Hamburg unquestionably enjoys the distinction of being the first fowl bred for exhibition purposes. Long before the days of poultry shows, nearly a century in advance of the old Shanghai "hen fever," at least as far back as the time of George II, we find Spangled Hamburgs bred to feather and exhibited for prizes in the two English counties of York and Lancashire. These shows were usually local in character, generally held in the public houses or village inns. Only hens and pullets were exhibited, prizes being awarded the most accurately marked specimens, with a sweepstake, or "cup" consisting of a small copper kettle to the ultimately successful breeder of the year. Some of these old kettles are still to be seen in the rural districts of that section, having been handed down through successive generations, as carefully cherished and as highly honored as those similarly curious trophies across the Channel, the "Roi des Coqueleurs" pewter plates of French Flanders.

The name "Hamburg" first entered poultry nomenclature as the designation of a top-knot fowl; the bearded variety, to distinguish from the unbearded, which later was then as now called Poland or Polish. Just when the term was first adopted can not now be told, but Nolan, of Dublin, and Richardson, an old-time English author, both describe "Hamburgs" as above indicated. Bennett, Miner and other early American authors all follow the same plan, and several of them give illustrations of crested Hamburgs, although at the Boston Poultry Show of November, 1849, it is noticeable that the "Bolton Gray or Creole," "Spangled Hamburg" and "Penciled Dutch" were grouped together, while the crested breeds had a separate class.

It seems probable that up to the poultry show era in England none of the varieties now so designated bore the name Hamburg. The spangles were previously known as "Pheasants" and "Mooneys," the pencilled birds were "Bolton Grays," "Bolton Bays," "Creoles" and "Dutch Everyday Layers," while the blacks were commonly called "Black Pheasants." These were all brought together under the name Hamburg, it is said, at the inauguration of the great Birmingham show, the term being understood as applying to a class of fowls rather than to one certain breed.

Our pencilled varieties are known to be of Dutch origin and practically identical in blood with the modern Campine. Spangled Hamburgs doubtless contain some of this same blood though they have been essentially English in character as far back as history can trace, and I am rather inclined to

believe that in the make-up of the original Mooneys and Pheasants there was at least as much of the Old English Game as of any imported blood. The style, size and carriage of the birds would seem to indicate as much, to say nothing of the reddish ears, while it is a known fact that several of the old Game strains gloried in true pheasant markings of plumage. Even the rose comb need not necessarily be considered foreign to the Game, for this feature is occasionally seen on the purest of pit fowls.

In early times the birds bred in Lancashire were known as "Mooneys," from their round, moon-like spangles, while in Yorkshire the half-moon or crescentic feather tip was preferred and birds so marked were called Golden and Silver Pheasants. In this connection it may be interesting to present what was perhaps one of the first attempts at a Poultry Standard, made in the early part of the last century, for judging Golden Mooney hens (remember that males were not exhibited) in the village shows of Lancashire.

Comb.—Best double; best square; the most erect and best piked behind.

Ears.—The largest and most white.

Neck.—The best streaked with green-black in the middle of the feathers; and best fringed with gold at the edges.

Breast.—The largest moons; best and brightest green-black, most free from being tipped with white or red at the end of the moon, and the clearest and best red from the moon to the bottom color.

Back.—The largest moons; best and brightest green-black, least tipped with white or red at the edges of the moon, and the best and clearest red from the moon to the bottom color.

Rump.—The largest moons; best and brightest green-black, least tipped with white or red at the edges of the moon, and the best and clearest red from the moon to the bottom color.

Wing.—This is divided into four parts: (1) Bow. Best and brightest green-black, and best and clearest red. (2) Bars. To have two distinct bars, composed of the largest, clearest, brightest, and best green-black moons, and the clearest and best red from the moon to the bottom color. (3) Flight. The clearest and best red. (4) The lacing, or top of the wing above the flight. Largest, clearest, brightest and best green-black spots on the ends of the feathers, and the best and clearest red from the spot to the bottom color.

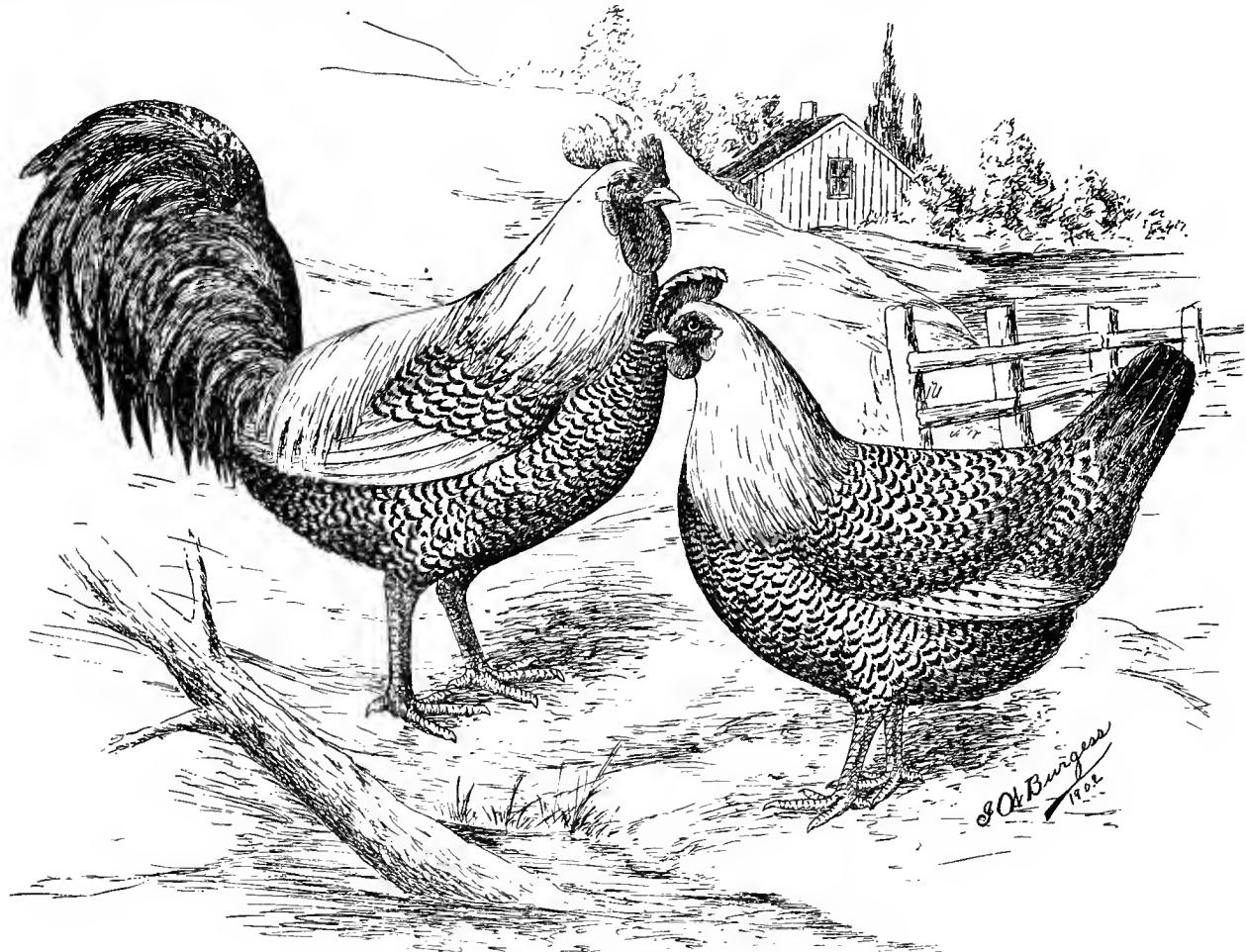
Tail.—The brightest, darkest and best green-black. To be full feathered.

Legs.—Best and clearest blue.

General Appearance.—The best feathered hen.

Of recent years there has been in England quite a change in the style and carriage of all the Hamburg varieties, the fanciers apparently aiming at more of a pheasant shape. (The term "pheasant" is here used in the American, not the British sense.) This is to be observed to some extent in the new Standard of The Hamburg Club as compared with our own Standard of Perfection. The former calls for short thighs, while the latter says "of medium length." The English work describes cock's tail as: "Of good length, carried at an angle of about forty-five degrees; sickles and secondaries broad, plentiful and sweeping." The American book: "Full, well expanded, carried moderately upright, but not erect." This comparison of language, however, does not make plain the real difference in

mine. The Pheasant is much the better known and seems to have enjoyed for a long time the greater popularity, though the Redcap plainly contains a larger proportion of original Game blood, is more truly English in style and consequently, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, may be considered as probably the more ancient. As far back as records go, the Redcap has had classes at a few local shows in York and Derbyshire, but has been the fowl of the villager rather than of the city fancier, and never attracted very much attention outside the two counties named. About seventeen years ago Mr. A. E. Wragg, of Edensor, and a few other English fanciers started a boom on the Redcaps which enjoyed a run of several seasons, spread the fowls to different sections of England and



SINGLE COMB SILVER CAMPINES.

type so much as an inspection of the exhibits at leading British shows where many of the prize birds are now seen with really short legs, long backs, low sweeping tails, almost Sumatra in style. In fact, the editor of London Poultry, in an issue of October 24, 1902, speaks of the Black Sumatra as "strikingly graceful, its flowing, well carried tail and Hamburg-like body combining to give it a most attractive appearance."

REDCAPS.

Both from the appearance of the fowl and also from its habit, we are led to believe that the Redcap is a near relative of the old Yorkshire Pheasant, though just how much blood the two races held in common would now be difficult to deter-

opened classes at many of the leading shows. This flare of popularity has since subsided in the larger poultry centers and the breed relegated to the "Any Other Variety" class.

The Redcap was introduced in America by Mr. Geo. Smith, of Rhode Island, and first exhibited at the "Poultry Fair" of Boston in the year 1852. It flourished for awhile among the fanciers of New England, but finally died out and was practically forgotten until re-introduced in July, 1886, by B. P. Valentine, of New Jersey. Mr. Valentine bred the variety with success but did not appear to understand the value of printer's ink, and very little was known of the breed in this country till a couple of years later when "the Redcap boom" was fairly launched by the writer of these notes. Numerous importations were made, a specialist club formed,

and for awhile everything looked Redcap and rosy. Then admission to the Standard was secured and nothing much has ever been heard of the variety since. Just why it should thus go up like a rocket and come down like a stick, is hard to determine, though my own opinion has been that the standard weight requirements are what killed the fowl's popularity. It is easy enough to talk about seven and a half pound cocks and occasionally to show one even considerably larger than this, but anyone who has kept the fowls a length of time must be free to acknowledge that this figure is at least half a pound beyond the Redcap's natural attainment, while our standard weights on hen and pullet are fully a pound too high. Really I see no reason for having standard weights at all. Should prefer to see this breed treated same as the other members of the Hamburg family.

The Redcap is a beautiful bird and a most excellent table fowl, but it is not such a heavy weight as its English advocates (whom our standard makers followed) would have us believe, and I think they hurt the variety's career by laying too much stress upon size. As with Old English Game, the fowls can be bred quite large. But whenever seven pounds in the male is exceeded, the coarseness in type and the lack of quality more than offset all the advantages gained by increase in size.

There are some localities in England where the Redcap used to be bred having a comb with a double spike behind, which was considered a sign of distinction and purity, though I never saw any standard which recognized this feature. It would now be considered almost a disqualification.

CAMPINES.

The home of the Campine, from which the breed takes its name, is a sandy stretch of country extending eastward from the city of Antwerp to Hasselt in Limbourg. It is in this district where the fowls are bred in greatest numbers though they may also be found in considerable quantity scattered through other sections of Belgium, as well as in Southern Holland, Northern France and the Rhenish provinces of Germany, in all of which places they have been known for a very long period of time. There is a tradition to the effect that this breed was brought into western Europe by Johanna, eldest daughter of Baldwin IX. He was the Count of Flanders who established the Latin Empire at Constantinople in the latter part of the twelfth century. Was killed in 1206. His old capital, the city of Lille, was destroyed in 1212, and was rebuilt by this daughter known as "Johanna of Constantinople." While there remains at this late day no authentic history bearing upon any of her efforts in poultry culture, the character and contour of the birds appear to point to an earlier home somewhere near the shores of the Mediterranean, the fowls are yet fairly abundant in the region where a part of Johanna's palace still stands, and on the whole the story may be considered as at least within the range of reason. No such breed is now known to exist in the Levant, but testimony to its former existence may be found in the "History Naturalium" of Ulisse Aldrovandi, an Italian naturalist of Bologna, whose ornithology published in 1599 contains a very accurate description of the Silver Campine under the name "Turkish Fowl."

As "Dutch Pencilled," "Chittiprat" and "Dutch Everday Layer" the breed has been known in Eng-

land for almost a century, though it is only within the past decade that the Campine as such has been recognized among British poultrymen, and only during the past four years that the fowl has been at all taken to by fanciers and exhibitors. Right now the single-combed silver and golden varieties are enjoying a boom in the British Isles. A specialist club has been formed, a standard drawn up and classes secured at several of the leading shows. Already the fowls begin to display more uniformity in markings and a general betterment from the exhibition standpoint. The Campine Club has a membership of seventy-seven, there were forty-one birds at the Palace Show last year, with present prospects of still further advances in the immediate future.

The Belgian Campine was introduced in America by Arthur D. Murphy, of Maine, in the year 1893. The single combed varieties were admitted to the Standard at the World's Fair revision and a great effort was made to push the fowl into popularity. But very few fanciers caught on, and the Campine became a "dead one" as far as the United States was concerned, before its boom had even started in England.

In Belgium there are seven recognized varieties:

1. Single Comb Silver.
2. Single Comb Golden.
3. Rose Comb Silver.
4. Rose Comb Golden.
5. S. C. White.
6. Courte-patte.
7. Braekel.

The first named is numerically equal to almost all the others combined. It is the common fowl of Northern Belgium and may be found in the villages, in the small city yards and on the farms. The birds are kept for their eggs rather than their beauty, and as a consequence comparatively few specimens could stand the close scrutiny of a fancier's eye. Occasionally a hen may be seen with rather evenly marked penciling, but many others appear with mossy or grayish body and light colored hackle. In fact, this is the impression most apt to be conveyed by a flock of Campines in a Belgian barnyard. They look like dapple-gray birds with white necks. Among the real fanciers a little attention has of late years been paid to markings and an attempt made to breed the Silver Campine somewhat similar to the Pencilled Hamburg, though in the former the pencilling is with a wider bar and the markings are more diffused throughout the plumage, particularly in the male. The cock's tail is commonly black or with slight traces of pencilling. In England the present fancy is for sickles edged with white or "mackerel marking."

The single comb Golden birds average a little better in uniformity than the Silvers, also a trifle smaller in size. They are to be found in fair numbers throughout all the region named.

Rose Comb Silvers are not overly abundant though a few may be seen at nearly all the Belgian shows. In Southern Holland and Northern Belgium one will occasionally find in these classes real Pencilled Hamburgs of evident English importation or else crosses of these on the native Campine. Further to the south in Belgium and in Northern France the rose-combed birds are of a more distinctive type and undoubtedly purity. They are Campine all over. The cocks are hen-feathered and hen-tailed, much better in pencilling than the ordinary single comb variety and in every way more worthy the attention of a fancier. Indeed there are few prettier sights in that land of pleasing prospects than a flock of these rose-combed Silvers run-

ning over the lawn and amidst the shrubbery of an old-fashioned chateau park.

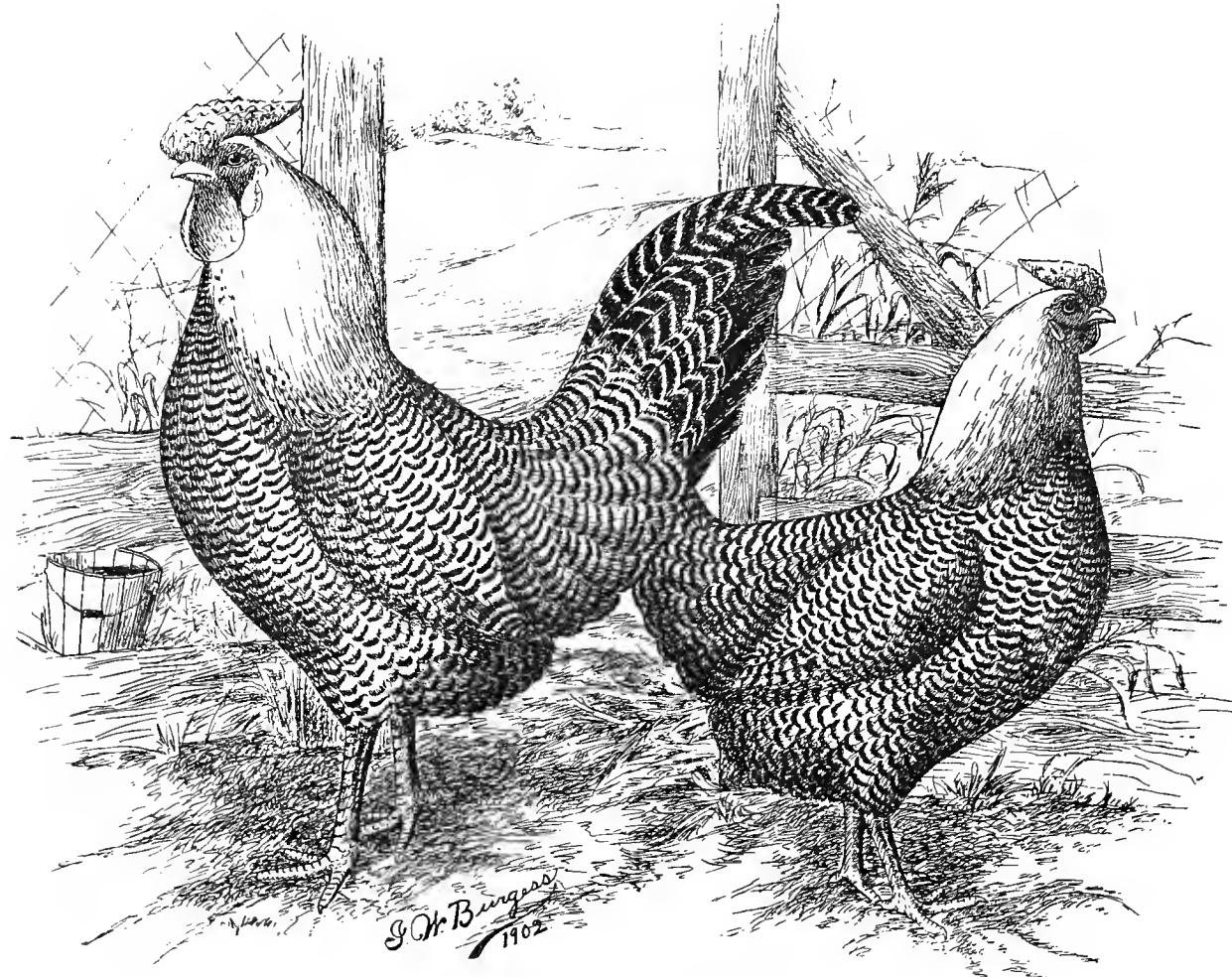
The accompanying illustrations were drawn by the Inland Poultry artist from a colored plate in *L'Acclimatation Illustrée*, published at Brussels some years ago. These pictures show the difference in style between the two kinds, and are presented as evidence in support of a belief I have for some time held, namely: that if our American poultrymen had taken up this rose comb variety—a fancier's fowl—instead of the single comb bird of the barnyard, the name Campine might even now have a place in our prize-lists and popularity. The hen-feathering would not appeal to some tastes perhaps. I have talked with French and Belgian breeders who did not favor it. But to me it seems a positive attraction as well as an advantage. Both sexes being practically alike, there are no "double mating" problems. The breeder knows exactly what to count upon and so can secure more definite results and higher excellence generally, which fact is well illustrated in the case of the old-time Lancashire Mooney, a hen-feathered fowl whose perfection in spangling has never since been equalled.

The White Campine of Belgium occupies about the same relative position as the White Hamburg in England and America. The Campine aux

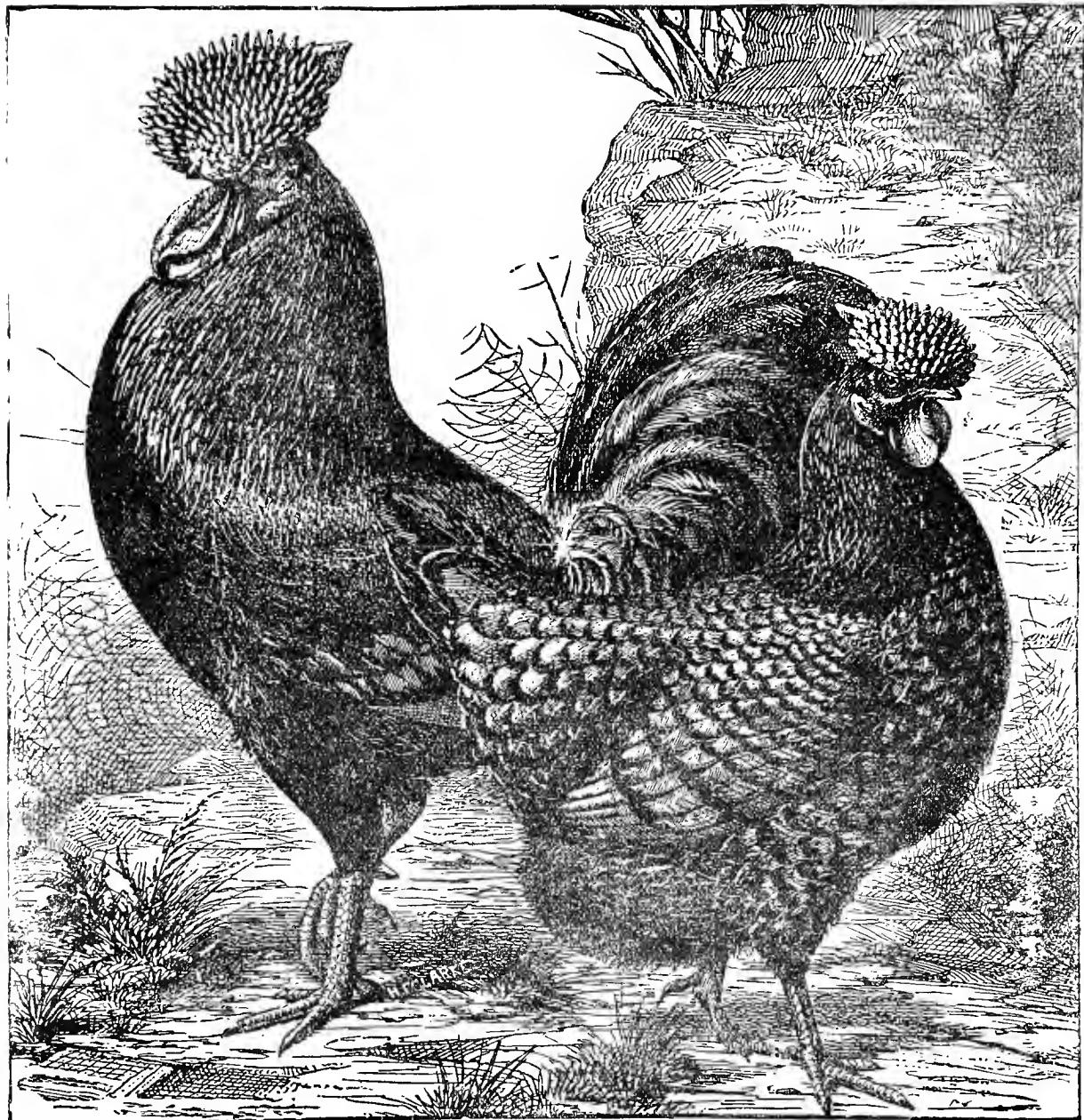
Courtes-Pattes is a duck-legged single comb Silver of more oddity than good looks. I once saw a very fine exhibit of these birds at the Concours Agricole Regional du Nord, (what we in America would call a "state fair") and they seem to have some few admirers among the gardeners and truck-patch farmers in the flax country, but are not often seen around Antwerp or Brussels.

Talk with a Belge who keeps Braekels and he will strive to convince you that his pets belong to an entirely distinct and superior race. As a matter of fact the Braekel is merely a heavy weight single comb Campine. Not a separate variety, only a strain or family which has been bred to large size for table use rather than fecundity.

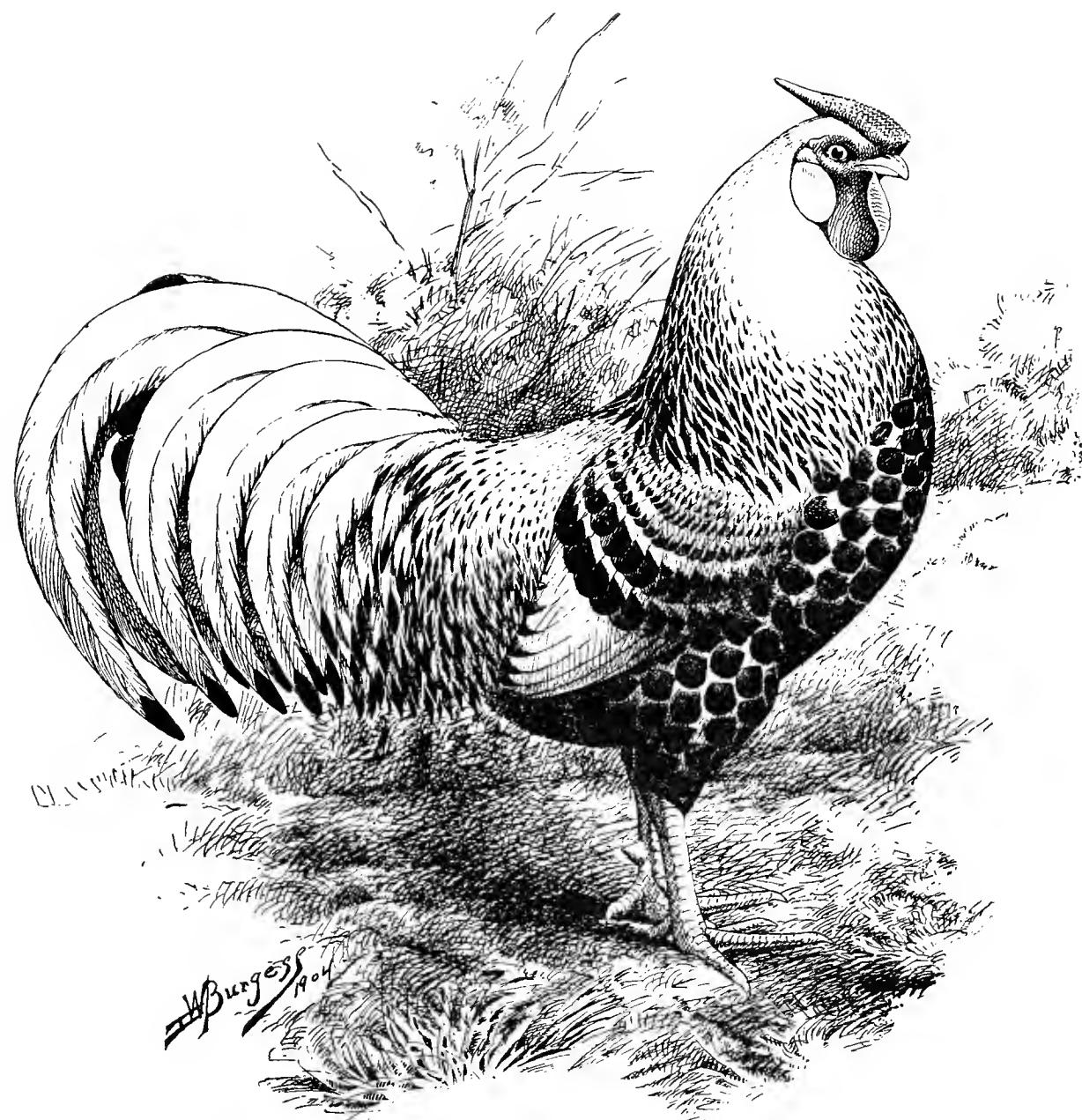
All the fowls of which this monograph treats are wonderful layers. They are game-like and graceful in carriage, noted for strong contrasts in color effects and glossy brilliance of plumage. Whether one choose the gorgeous Spangle or the noble Red-cap of Merrie England, the Rosecomb Hen-feather of Northern France, or the rustic grisette from the land of dog-traction, he will have secured a thing of beauty that will be not only "a joy forever," but also the kind of homely comfort that proves its worth in the egg-basket and the pocket-book.



ROSE COMB SILVER CAMPINES.



PAIR OF ENGLISH REDCAPS.



STANDARD SILVER SPANGLED HAMBURG MALE.

SILVER SPANGLED HAMBURGS--MALE.

General Description--Advice to Breeders--Standard Requirements Discussed Section by Section--Shape and Correct Feather Markings Fully Illustrated--Correct Methods of Scoring and Judging.

IN Chart, Fig. 1, is presented my ideas of a Hamburg male and sufficient plumage is shown on each section to give the amateur a thorough knowledge of what constitutes perfect color on this breed. In the following pages I believe that a sufficient number of sections are illustrated to give the reader a good general idea of the defects which they may expect to find in this breed, and by calling attention to them and stating how much I would discount them, they should be able to form a good idea of what their birds would score.

My aim is not alone to educate the amateur as to what really constitutes a perfect bird, but to as nearly as possible eliminate the worthless birds from our show room and bring all breeds up to a higher average. Remember, it is not quantity, but quality that makes the show.

Perhaps there is no one breed recognized by the Standard that has been bred and talked of so long, where there is so little known by the average fancier as regards its fancy points, as the Hamburg. No breed is shown with such radically defective plumage, and breeders seem to have no idea of what really constitutes a perfect bird. While many choice specimens are shown every year and some of the grandest color produced that is found on any breed, the rank and file of exhibitors are hardly competent to tell whether a specimen is a prize bird or a disqualified one; in fact I have seen exhibitors waiting to see where the ribbon would go, feeling moderately sure of first, when perhaps in the next cage to their own fowls would be one specimen worth a car load of the stock they were anticipating winning on. This is true, not alone of one show, but many of them. In fact, exhibited in some of our largest exhibitions we find Hamburgs where an entry fee of from \$1.00 to \$2.00 is charged, when the specimen is worth only eight cents per pound, and would be expensive in some cases at that price. Still this condition of things is not to be wondered at, as up to the present time but little prominence has been given the breed and what few birds have been exhibited were, as a rule, shown by amateurs who were not qualified to select the best of their own flock either for exhibition or breeding purposes, and when the flock started to degenerate they had no idea how to mate to improve, nor where to look for aid, even though they were conscious of the deterioration.

In figure 1 is presented a chart, showing both shape and color of an ideal Silver Spangled Hamburg male. The same chart could be used to illustrate a Golden Hamburg by making the ground color gold with black spangles, and in view of the fact that the Silver and Golden are alike with this one exception, the latter will not be illustrated, but

the chart, Fig. No. 1, will represent the ideal male of both varieties. It is the aim in this chart to show a well balanced, symmetrical bird, one that we believe conforms to the Standard requirements and such a bird as the writer would honestly pass in the show room without a discount on symmetry. Just such a bird as should head the yards of our up-to-date breeders to make the Hamburgs what they truly have a right to be,—one of America's most fashionable breeds.

In judging Hamburgs either under comparison or score card methods, the judge must at all times take into consideration the number of points that are allowed for each section and estimate his discounts accordingly. The scoring of any fowl is simply the working out of a mathematical problem with your eye as the sole guide for measurement. You may not be able to score a bird twice exactly alike, for this eye measurement may vary from one-fourth to one-half point in a section, but a careful study of the chart, together with the defective sections and the valuations given herewith, will, without doubt, give you so good a general idea that you need not go far wrong in selecting your best specimens in your own yards or in the show room.

SYMMETRY OR TYPICAL CARRIAGE.

This section is one of vast importance and one that we should dislike very much to see dropped from the scale of points, as a careful study of it will come nearer giving the amateur the correct idea as to Standard qualifications than any other three sections in any breed. At the revision meeting on Fisher's Island the word symmetry was dropped and typical carriage adopted in its place. The change was not a good one, in my judgment, and was opposed by both Mr. B. N. Pierce and myself, and a more careful study of the section since the adoption of the latter appellation has more thoroughly convinced me that we should return to the former.

Symmetry is a due proportion of the several parts of a body to each other, or the harmonious blending of all parts to make a whole, while typical carriage refers to the pose of a specimen and may mean some peculiar position of the bird, whether that position is typical of the breed it represents or not. I believe that any unprejudiced person will agree with me that the word symmetry should be substituted for typical carriage, and I believe the amateur can be better taught to understand the meaning of the word and its application to the scoring of fowls.

A Hamburg male to be symmetrical must be a well-proportioned, closely knit bird, showing a small, neat, rather short head and nice tapering



STANDARD HAMBURG SHAPE—MALE.

Chart Fig. 1—Showing Standard Hamburg male shape, all varieties; Also correct color markings for Silver and Golden Spangled Hamburg males.

neck, with full hackle flowing well over the shoulders. Back, of medium length, gradually sloping on nearly a straight line from end of hackle to base of tail. Breast, broad and prominent. Body, round and symmetrical. Wings, large and carried rather low but held firmly in place. Tail, full, well expanded and carried moderately upright. Sickles, well curved. Legs, of medium length and standing square when viewed from front. Shanks, of medium length and toes well spread. In fact, just such specimens as are shown in Figs. No. 1 and 28.

Should head be long and gamey, the out is one-half. Neck feathers too scant, failing in hackle at junction of back, one-half out. Back too long or too short, one-half out. Roached back, one out. Too narrow, one-half out. Breast narrow or flat, one out. Not deep enough through from shoulders to point of breast bone, one-half out. Body too long or too short, one-half out. Too narrow, failing to show the nicely rounded outline so much sought for in this breed, one-half to one out, as in degree. Wings carried too high, one-half out. Badly folded, one-half out. Tail too high or too low, one-half to one out. Scant in plumage, failing to show a nice, full flowing tail, so much admired in this breed, one-half to one out. Legs too short or too long, one-half to one out. Knock knees, one-half to one and a half out, as in degree.

CONDITION.

This section in all Hamburgs is valued at eight points, and has reference to the health of the specimen and the general condition of the plumage. It is important, inasmuch as it throws a safeguard around careless or thoughtless exhibitors and compels them to put their birds in presentable shape for exhibition, or stand the chance of being turned down by the judge placing the awards. It is a judge's right and privilege to severely discount any specimen that shows clearly the owner has been careless in fitting the specimen for exhibition. A judge may be a power for good in weeding out unsightly specimens, and in that way make our exhibition rooms a place where only the best, the healthiest and the properly groomed may receive a prize.

In scoring this section a bird should have the benefit of any doubt, as quite often they are injured after they arrive in the show room, or become soiled in plumage from lack of attention on the part of the attendants who fail to clean their coops as often as they should, but where birds are shown in a manner which indicates carelessness on the part of the owner, they should be cut for it.

If a fowl shows symptoms of roup or has swollen head, the out is from one-half to one. If roup or canker has reached that point where the breath of the fowl is offensive, making the spread of the disease liable, the judge should refuse to award it a prize, but instead should order it out of the show room, as one sick bird may cause a lot of harm if left in a room over night with a lot of healthy birds.

Where feathers in wings or tail are broken the out is one-half to one and a half, as in degree. If back of females are practically bare, as they sometimes are when allowed to run with vigorous males, the out is one-half point. When legs are scaly or tough the out is one-half to one and a half, as in degree. Combs injured by fighting or frost one-half to one as in degree.

HEAD.

This section is valued at six points, and is subdivided allowing three for shape and three for color. In shape it should be short and small, and in color

the head should be white; face, bright red; beak, dark horn. In the chart is shown a well balanced, well proportioned head, and one that fits well the sprightly alert carriage of the Hamburgs. In No. 2 is shown a head that would be termed a trifle coarse, still good enough to pass

ordinarily without a discount. In No. 3 is shown a head narrow and too long. Such a head should be discounted one-half to three-fourths points.

In Nos. 4 and 5 we have a gamey, snakey head, such as are usually adorned with the kind of head gear we are illustrating. Such heads should be discounted one point each.

In No. 6 is shown a head that is wrong in every way. It is too shallow and too narrow. It has about the right length, but is not rightly proportioned. The beak is nearly straight, the upper mandible is too thin and delicate, while the lower mandible is too thick and out of proportion. Such a head should be discounted two points in the show room and never used in the breeding yard.

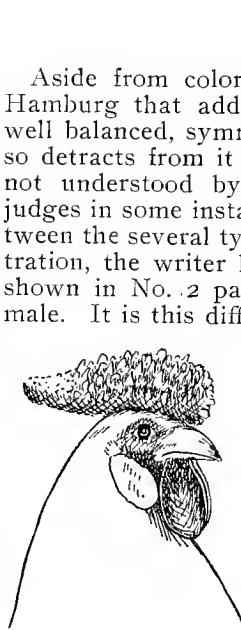
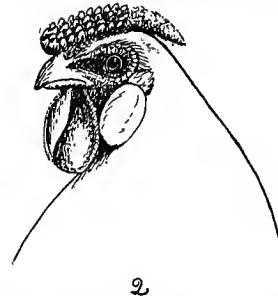
COMB.

Aside from color there is no one point on the Hamburg that adds so much to its beauty as a well balanced, symmetrical comb, and nothing that so detracts from it as a poor one. This section is not understood by the average fancier, and the judges in some instances are slow to distinguish between the several types of Rose combs. As an illustration, the writer has seen a comb similar to one shown in No. 2 passed as perfect on a Hamburg male. It is this difference of opinion that warrants

our going ahead at a big expense to show the readers what we believe to be correct outlines as described by the Standard, calling attention to the defective ones, so that a fair and careful comparison may be made of them. In the chart, Fig. 1, is shown a comb that I would be willing to pass without a discount. The Standard says, in describing this sec-

tion: "Rose, square in front, free from hollow in the center, uniform on each side, firm and even upon the head without inclining to one side, the top covered with small points or corrugations, terminating at the rear in a spike with very slightly inclines upward."

In No. 2 is shown a comb similar to the one shown in the chart, except the spike turns downward, following in the shape of the skull. Such a comb looks well on a Wyandotte, but is far from a good Hamburg comb. If the breeder desires good



combs on his males, he must guard against combs like No. 2. This comb would no doubt produce a fair per cent. of good combs on females, but on males it would simply run to the Wyandotte type in such proportions that the breeder would be discouraged.

In No. 3 is shown a type of comb quite often seen, and one that has some good features as well as bad ones. Writer would prefer comb No. 3 to comb No. 2 on a breeder; however, the discount in scoring should be the same—one point. Comb No. 2 is discounted one point for spike turning down at the end, while comb No. 3 should be discounted one-half point for uneven, corrugations and one-half point for stub spike in rear.

In No. 4 is shown a comb that is sometimes met with and one that careless breeding will soon develop. This comb is too high and too narrow, comes to a point in front, and is short the spike that goes to make up the perfect Hamburg comb. A specimen showing a comb like No. 4 would be disqualified for absence of spike, and should never be used in the breeding pens.

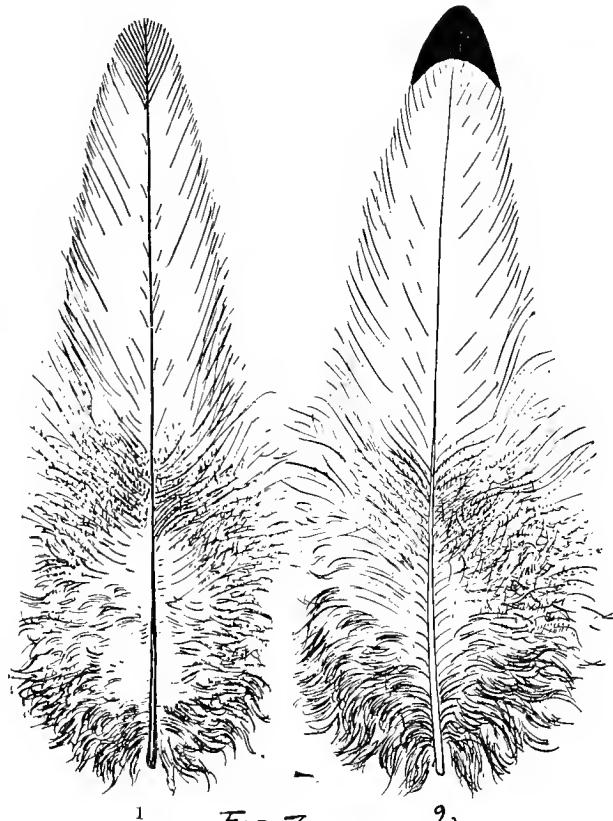
No. 5 shows a type of comb more after the Wyandotte style. It is broader than it should be, rests on one side of the head, and has a bad hollow through the center of it. This comb should be discounted one point for being too wide, one point for lying to one side, one and one-half for hollow center and one-half for shape of spike at rear.

In Fig. 6 is shown a comb that is quite often found on males of this breed, and one that sometimes passes the judge's hands without being disqualified. However, this is a disqualified comb, being so large and low in front as to obstruct the sight. Another bad feature with this comb is the way it is set on the head. It hangs down too far in front, covering over half the beak. Instead of being square in front it is rounding and corrugated, points on top are of an uneven length. Such combs should be disqualified in the show room and discarded from the breeding pens. In scoring the section of comb in this or any other breed it is well to remember that all points allowed for this section go to shape, and are not subdivided as in other sections. There are ten points allowed for comb in the Hamburgs, and a cut of one point is a very light one, as it means that nine-tenths of the comb is perfect; if two is cut, four-fifths of comb is perfect, and if five is cut, one-half is perfect. It is an unusually good comb with a cut of less than two.

WATTLES AND EAR LOBES.

This section is given considerable prominence in the Hamburg, there being ten points allowed. The Standard has failed to divide the section allotting any certain number for shape or color, but in order to intelligently score this section, writer will divide them, allowing six points for shape and four for

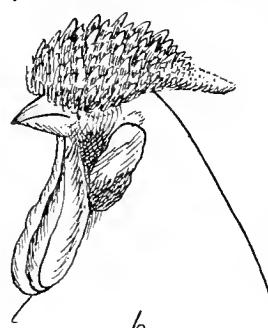
color, and make discounts accordingly. In the chart Fig. 1 is shown a well proportioned ear lobe and wattle. The Standard says of the lobes: "Of medium size, flat, round, smooth, and even, fitting close to the head. Wattles, broad, thin, well rounded and free from wrinkles." By referring to the chart it will be noticed the lobes are smooth, fitting nicely to the head. Wattles, broad as compared to their length, in fact just such lobes and wattles as our interpretation of the Standard requires. In No. 2 is shown a very good ear lobe, and one that is fairly well proportioned, but the wattles are too small and contracted to represent the Standard ideal, and should be discounted one-half to three-fourths points.



1 FIG. 7 2
HACKLE FEATHERS.

In No. 3 we have a very well proportioned wattle, but lobes should be discounted one-half point. In No. 4 is shown a lobe and wattle that are defective in every way. Lobes are too long, fit loosely on the head and are out of proportion. Lower edge shows streaks of red, where it should be pure white. Such lobes should be discounted one point for shape, one-half point for color. The wattles are too long and badly proportioned, one being longer than the other. They should be discounted one-half point for extra length. One-half point for failure to properly round out, and one point for unevenness in length.

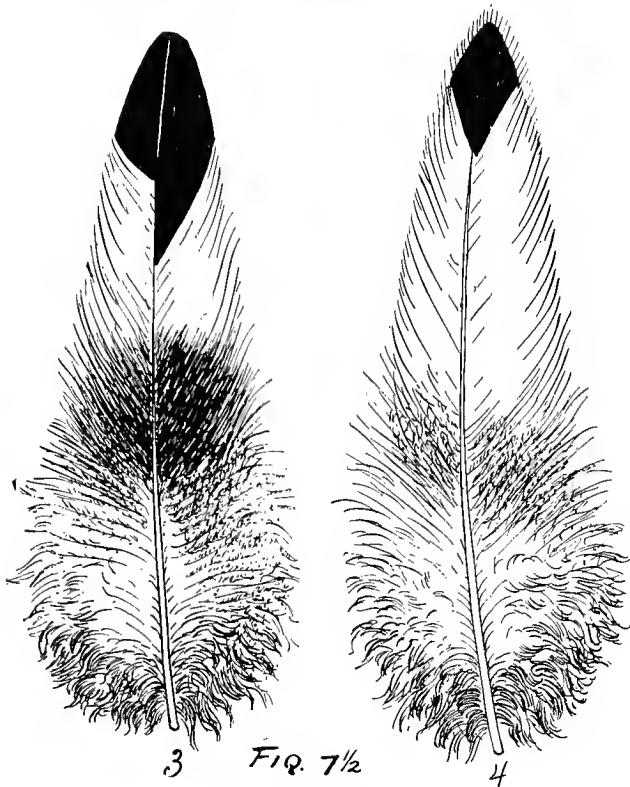
In No. 5 is shown a lobe that is too large, not well proportioned, being too narrow for its length. This lobe should be discounted three-fourths on



6

shape. Wattles are too thin where they join on to head. Are too long and heavy at the lower end. Such wattles should be discounted one and one-half points.

In No. 6 is shown a lobe that is too long and too narrow, fitting badly on the head. Such a lobe should be discounted one and one-half points on shape, and in view of its being nearly one-half red, the bird possessing such a lobe should be disqualified, as more than one-third of surface showing red is a disqualification in this breed. The wattles here



HACKLE FEATHERS.

are long and uneven in length. They join on to the head badly, impairing the neat appearance of the bird. Such wattles should be discounted one and one-half points.

NECK.

This section has a valuation of eight points, and is divided, giving three to shape and five to color. In chart, Fig. 1, is shown what the writer considers a Standard neck, both as to shape and color. In shape the neck should be tapering, with full hackle flowing well over the shoulders. In color it should be clear white, the longer feathers ending with a black spangle. To produce good diamond shape spangles, properly proportioned on the end of a white feather, is a task not easily accomplished, and it is this striving for perfection that makes the art of poultry breeding so very interesting. With the Standard calling for a white feather with a black end, a hard task is set for the breeders of this handsome variety of the Hamburgs. 'Tis true this is overcome in a way by the allowing of a dark slate undercolor, but this undercolor must not fade if you expect good diamond spangles with sufficient black to show them off to advantage.

In Figs. 7 and 7 1/2 are shown four defective feathers, no two of them alike, at the same time they are defects often met with, and sometimes they will all appear on one specimen. Feather No. 1 has a small spangle at the point, but it is not distinct

enough, the white running into the black, giving the spangle a faded-out appearance. Feather No. 2 has enough black, but the black is in the form of a crescent, one of the worst defects with which our Hamburg breeders have to contend. If all the feathers on a bird should be marked as No. 2, the specimen would be disqualified. A neck with feathers like No. 1 should be discounted one point, while necks with feathers like No. 2 should be cut two points at least. Feather No. 3 has too much black. While black at point of feather is in form of a spangle it is not properly divided. At this time it might be well to lay particular stress on the proper shape of the spangle, and reference is again made to chart, Fig. 1. The spangle is there shown, not alone in correct shape, but correct color as well. The black must not only follow the web of the feather to the shaft, but must in following the web of the feather meet at the shaft. The spangle in feather No. 3 follows the web of the feather, but it does not meet at the shaft, and there is too much black. A neck like this would show a dark smoky ring around the base. There is another defect in feather No. 3 that is almost sure to crop out when the large, irregular diamond appears on the end of the feather, that is the black in the web of the feather near the downy portion. This is not a very serious defect from a breeding standpoint, but it is in opposition to Standard ideals and must be discounted. A neck with feathers like No. 3 should be discounted one-half point for black in web of feather. One-half point for spangle failing to meet at shaft and three-fourths for too much black in spangle. In No.

4 is shown a feather with a well-proportioned spangle and one that looks well on the lower feathers of the neck; but this feather has a defect common to the variety, of a narrow lacing or edging of bronzy white on the outside of the black. Such feathers should be discounted one point. In Nos. 8 and 9 defective shape is shown. No. 8 is too narrow through, is too straight up and down and fails in that pleasing symmetrical taper as shown in the chart.

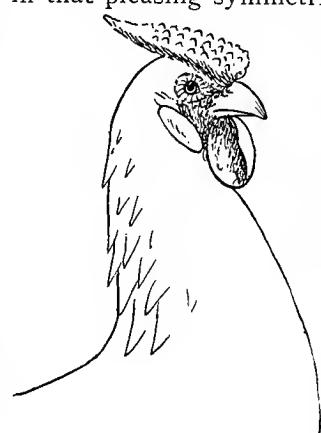
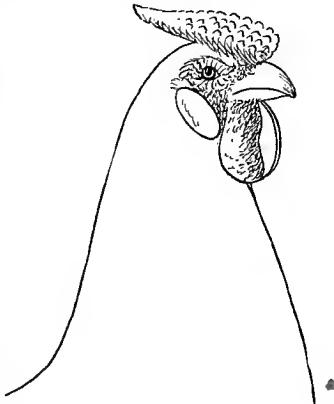
Such a neck should be discounted three-fourths point. Fig. 9 is wrong in everything. It is too narrow, very scantily feathered and carried drawn back like a vain peacock. Such a neck should be discounted two points.

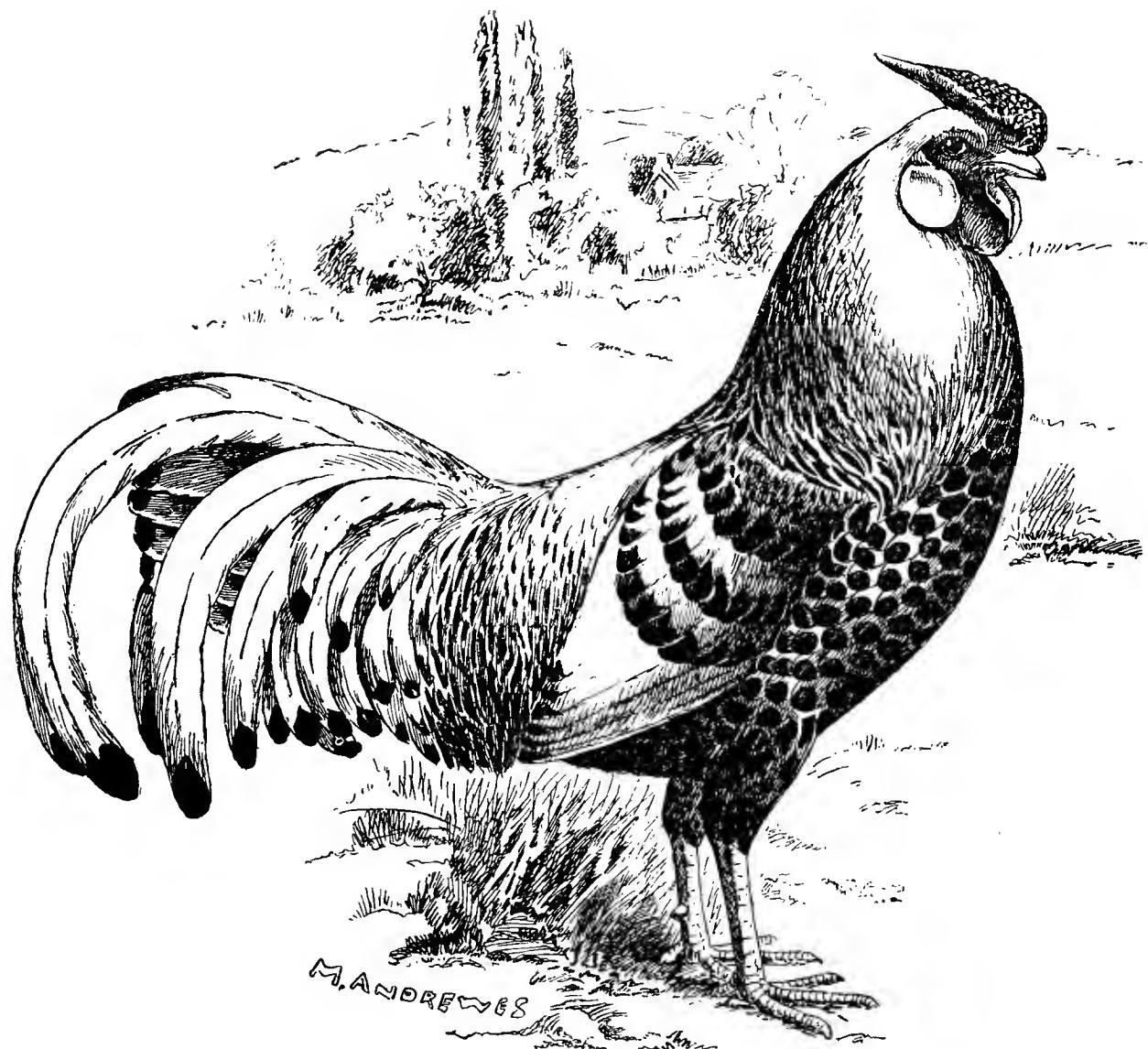
BACK.

No one section on any bird is so valuable from a breeder's standpoint as back. Without a well shaped, well balanced back on the breeding males, no great results may be expected from the matings. This is not only true of poultry, but every class of live stock. If a good breeder is wanted, get the back right first, then look for the

9

ing males, no great results may be expected from the matings. This is not only true of poultry, but every class of live stock. If a good breeder is wanted, get the back right first, then look for the





SILVER SPANGLED HAMBURG COCK.

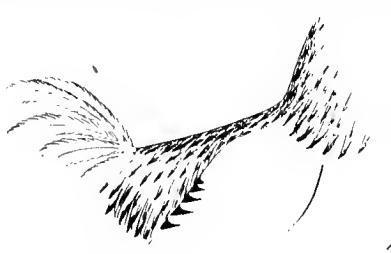
As Bred in England, Showing the Moon Spangles and Low Carried Tail.

other sections, but be sure on this point. The Standard in describing shape of this section says: "Back of medium length, saddle feathers abundant." In color it should be clear, silvery white, spangled with black. Neither the description of shape nor

color do justice to the breed. The word medium as used in the Standard without a clear definition of it means nothing. What might be medium to one person, may be away out of proportion to

silvery white, each feather ending with a small black spangle, similar to the spangle in the hackle. Why the committee on Hamburgs failed to give us a better description of this section we are unable to understand. However, in chart, Fig. 1, is shown a good illustration of back color, and one the writer would be willing to pass as perfect in this particular, if a living specimen could be produced as good.

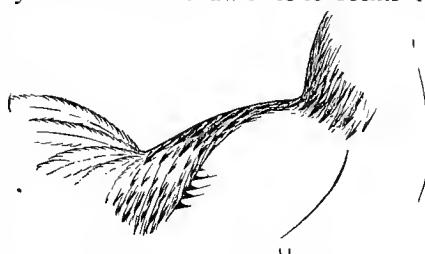
In Fig. 30, No. 12 shows a feather taken from upper part of saddle. This feather is well proportioned with white and black, but the two colors are not properly divided. The undercolor is too light,



10

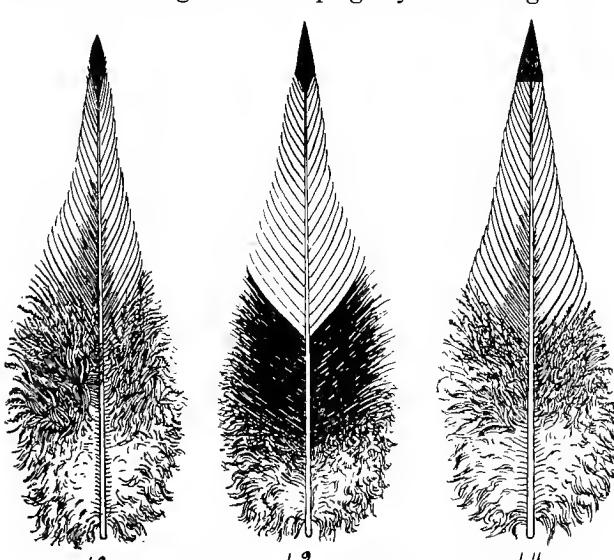
STRAIGHT BACK.

another. The Standard does not say whether the back shall be straight or sloping, whether it shall rise gradually or with a sharp concave sweep to the tail. But regardless of the Standard description, by a comparison of the best illustrations to be found, and the best specimens the writer has seen on exhibition, we believe the correct shape of a Hamburg back is given in the chart illustration. Of the several styles of backs drawn none seems to fill the requirements as well as this one. In No. 10 is shown a back that is too straight and one that should be discounted one point. In No. 11 a back is outlined that is too long and roached. Such a back should be discounted two and a half points in the show room and should never be used in the breeding yards. Back like Fig. 11 would look well on an Indian Game, but would disgrace the sprightly Hamburg.



11

ROACHED BACK.



12

13

14

FIG. 30. SADDLE FEATHERS—SILVER SPANGLED HAMBURG MALE.

In describing color of back the Standard should read: "Clear silvery white, each feather ending with a small black spangle. Saddle feathers clear,



20

DEFECTIVE BODY SHAPE—SILVER SPANGLED HAMBURG MALE.

while the web of the feather is nearly black. The spangle is very good, the only fault is in the undercolor, which should be discounted one-half point. In No. 13 is shown a feather that is good at the point, but is entirely too dark underneath. As was stated in describing color of neck, these dark undercolored birds are sometimes valuable as breeders, especially when the birds have been allowed to lighten up, as is often the case, but the Standard calls for a silvery white feather. A back showing feather like No. 13 should be discounted one point. In No. 14 is shown a feather that is rightly proportioned with black at the point, but the marking is wrong. Instead of showing a diamond shaped spangle the black runs straight across. The undercolor of this feather is too light. A specimen showing feathers like No. 14 should be discounted one and a half points.

BREAST.

Next to back, there is no more important section to any breed than breast. This section, when well balanced and properly proportioned, adds much to the beauty of a bird, while a narrow consumptive looking breast detracts from the beauty of the specimen no matter how good the other sections may be. In chart, Fig. 1, is shown a breast that conforms to the Standard, and one following closely the best specimens yet seen. Some prefer a breast a trifle more prominent, something after the style of a pouter pigeon, but in the opinion of the writer the chart comes nearer the ideal and I would be willing to pass as perfect any breast that shows as

good development as outlined in this chart. In describing this section, the Standard says: "Broad and prominent." These features are well illustrated in the chart.

In No. 20 is shown a breast that is too shallow through from shoulders to point of breast bone. It is narrow and out of proportion and should be discounted one and a half. In color the breast should be clear, silvery white, distinctly spangled with

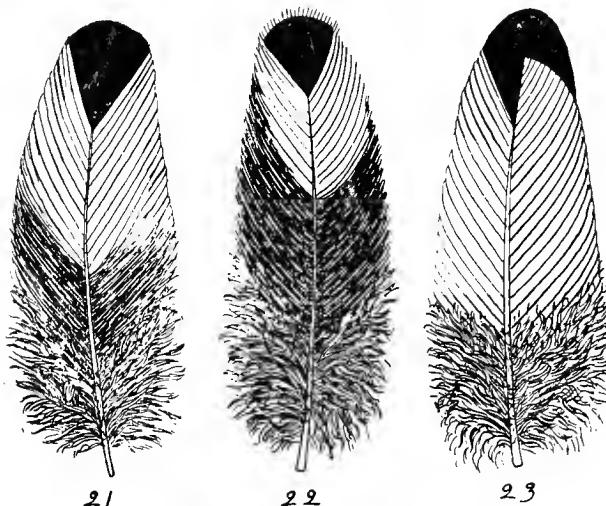
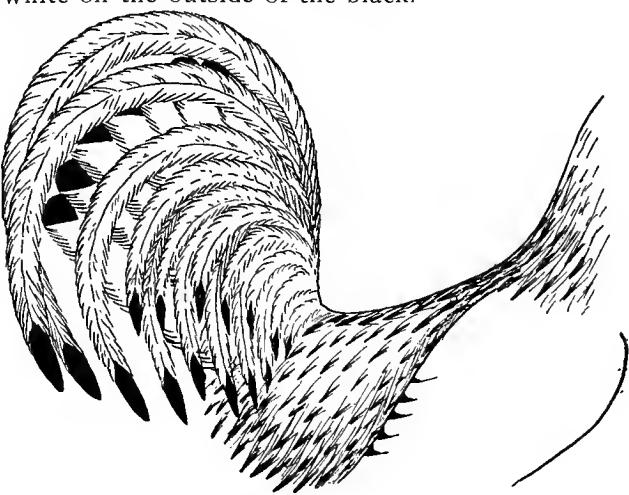


FIG. 29. BREAST FEATHERS—SILVER SPANGLED HAMBURG MALE.

black, free from mossing or lacing, spangles following the web of the feather to the shaft, and being proportionate with the size of the feather.

In Fig. 29, feather 21 shows a good spangle and one that appears well on the breast section, but it is too dark in undercolor of web, the black running past the fluffy portions and should be discounted one-half point. In No. 22 is shown a feather that is quite often found in this variety. The spangle is well proportioned and well shaped, but the undercolor is too black, one of the worst features of the feather being a lacing or mossing of white on the outside of the black.



TAIL TOO HIGH. NOT WELL SPREAD.

Ask any old breeder what he considers the worst color defect in this variety, and he will tell you the mossy surface. It is not only hard to get rid of, but it is a defect that shows from the surface, and is one of the first to be seen. A breast showing feathers like No. 22 should be discounted two points. No. 23 shows a feather taken from the

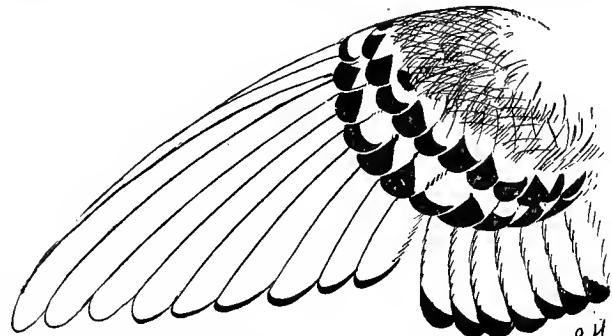
lower part of breast where that section joins on to the body. This feather is half laced and half spangled. The black runs too far around on the laced side. The next feather above overlaps, making this part of the breast look black. Such feathers should be discounted one point.

BODY AND FLUFF.

This section has a valuation of eight points and is divided equally, allowing four for shape and four for color. In shape the body should be round and symmetrical, fluff rather short. Reference is again made to the chart, where an idea of a Standard body can be obtained. Round and symmetrical, fluff short. In submitting this outline it is agreed not to discount it if one is found in the show room as good. In No. 25 is shown a body that is too short and narrow. Instead of being round and symmetrical it is narrow and pinched. Such a body should be discounted one and a half points.

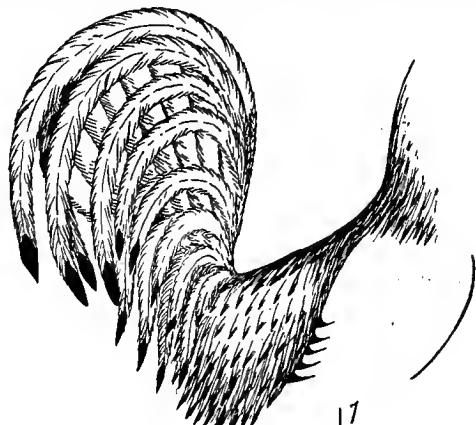
WINGS.

Here is another section that has quite a valuation, and one that seldom passes without a cut. The bows should be silvery white, distinctly spangled with black. Primaries white, each feather ending with a large black spangle, forming two distinct



DEFECTIVE WING—SILVER SPANGLED HAMBURG MALE.

parallel bars across the wing. In shape the wing should be rather large and carried moderately low. In chart, Fig. 1, is shown a well-proportioned wing, with just enough color to show how the feather should look. The absence of distinct bars across the wing is a disqualification, and the breeders of Hamburgs are



SQUIRREL TAIL.

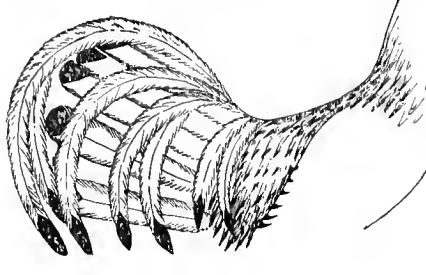
always striving for perfection in this section. The Standard makers allow six points for color and four for shape. This section is seldom discounted unless for broken feathers, as the bird when in good con-

dition invariably holds the wing in the correct position. The discount for broken feathers is from one-half to one and a half, as in degree. In color it is seldom we find a well-spangled bar. Many of the feathers will insist on showing lacing instead of spangles, as shown in No. 24. Instead of two distinct bars across the wing, they will quite often mingle or run together at the end, similar to No. 24. The flight feathers will only half lace, the ends of long feathers showing solid white, or sometimes flecked with black. A wing like No. 24 should be discounted one and a half points.

TAIL.

This section is valued at eight points and is subdivided, allowing four for color and four for shape. In shape it should be full, well expanded, carried

moderately upright, but not erect. Sickles, well covered. Coverts, abundant. In the chart, Fig. 1, is shown a tail that conforms to the Standard, and one that fits well in this



15

SCANT TAIL.

breed of fowl. The best shaped males of this variety that we have seen carry their tails about the same angle as shown in the chart. The best shape the writer has found comes where there are seven feathers on either side of the main tail, and an abundance of coverts as shown in the chart. In No. 15 is shown a tail that is scantily feathered, or as a game man would say, is not furnished. This tail is deficient in both main tail feathers and coverts and is carried too low. It should be discounted one point. In No. 16 is shown a tail that is too high and when bird is frightened will stand perfectly erect, marring the beautiful curve to back and tail so much admired. Such tails should be discounted one point. In Fig. 17 is shown what is termed a squirrel tail and one that should be disqualified in the show room. This is quite a serious defect and is more noticeable on the high tailed varieties than the heavier weight breeds. Not a few cases are known where the specimen became squirrel tailed from standing in an exhibition coop for a day or two, that had never shown a sign of it in the yard. In view of the fact that judges and breeders sometimes disagree on what really constitutes a squirrel tail, it was thought best to show No. 17, giving the rule that it is the writer's belief the majority of judges have adopted. When the main tail feathers, that is the fourteen feathers that go to make up the tail proper, are carried in front of a perpendicular line, the specimen is disqualified. No. 17 has just passed that line and should be thrown out, but any tail less defective should only be discounted.

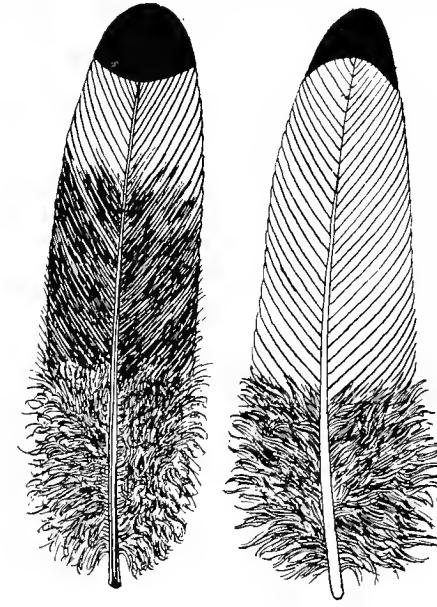
In color the tail should be white on the outside, ending with a large black spangle. Sickles and coverts white, ending with a black spangle. In chart, Fig. 1, is shown correct color on main tail, sickle and coverts, giving the proper amount of black, as found on our best specimens.

In No. 18 is shown a feather that is more often met with than the true spangle. There is really more black at the end than the Standard calls for, but the spangle is not right. The black meets at

the shaft, but it does not follow the web to the surface as it should. This feather is too dark in the web, showing black on both sides. It should be discounted one-half point for blunt spangle, and three-fourths for black in web. Feather 19 is well proportioned, except it has a crescent instead of a spangle. Such a feather should be discounted one point.

LEGS AND TOES.

This section is well described in the Standard, and is usually good in both male and female. The



18

19

MAIN TAIL FEATHERS—SILVER SPANGLED HAMBURG.

Standard says: "Thighs, of medium size and well developed; shanks rather short and slender. Toes straight." In Chart, Fig. 1, is shown a well proportioned pair of legs for a male bird of this variety. They are of the proper length and size to harmonize with the other sections of the body. In Fig. 31, No. 26, is shown a pair of legs that are too short for this breed, and should be discounted one point. While in No. 27 they are too long and gamey, and have in addition a crooked toe. Such legs should be discounted one and a half points. In No. 25 is shown a defect met with some times in all varieties. The feet are turned, throwing the knees together, making a bad pair of knock knees. Such legs should be discounted two points.

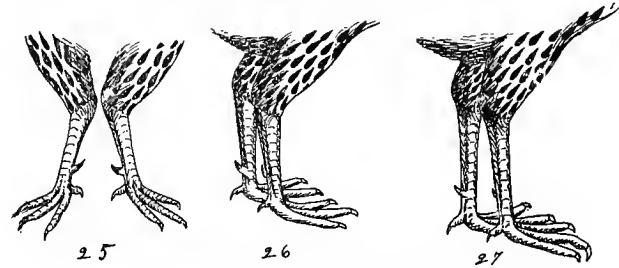


FIG. 31. DEFECTIVE LEGS—SILVER SPANGLED HAMBURGS.

If the readers have studied the chart and defective sections as illustrated, together with description, we believe they have a good general idea of the defects in this breed, and should be able to select their best specimens, discarding the poor ones.

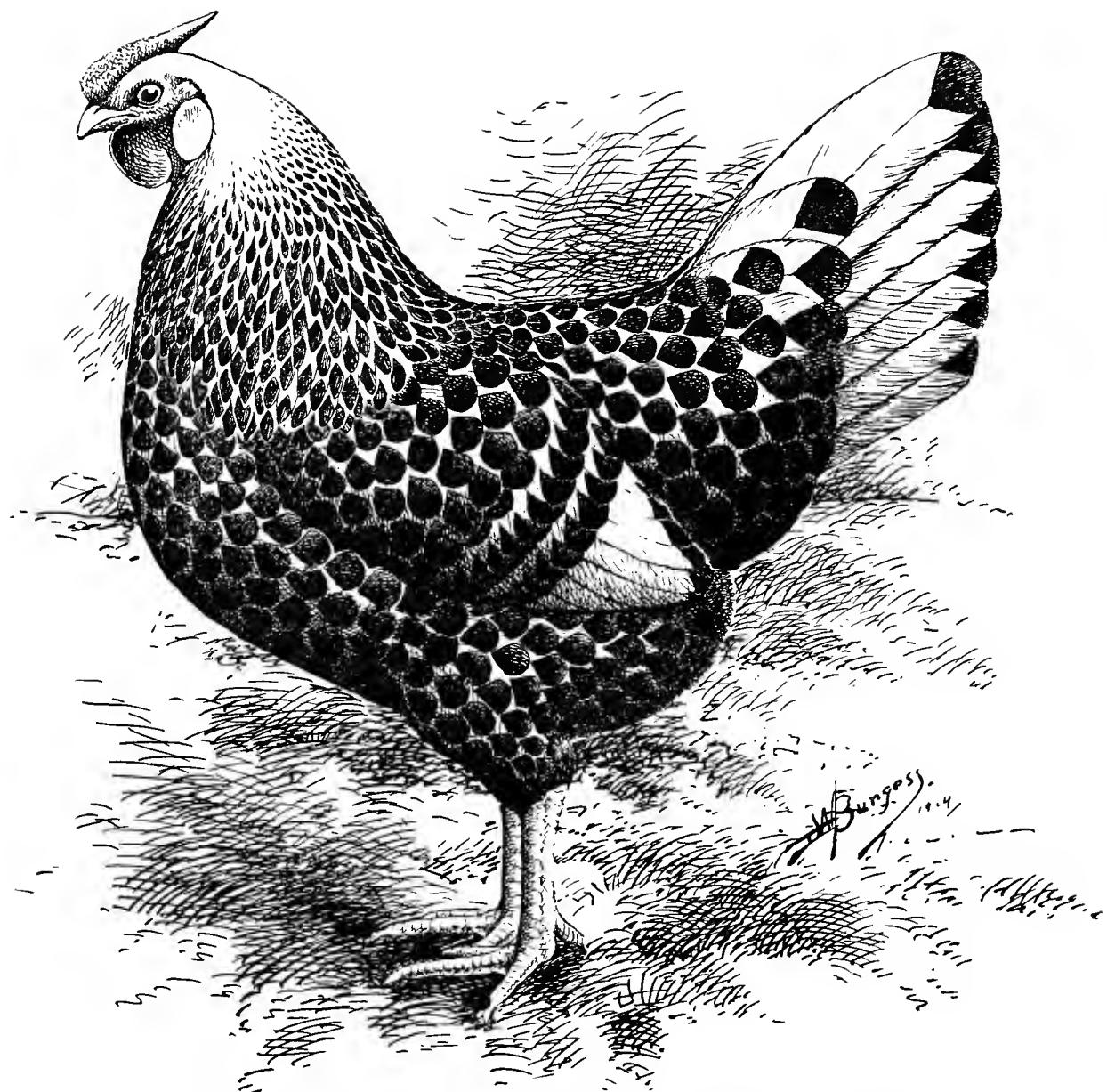


FIG. 1—STANDARD SILVER SPANGLED HAMBURG FEMALE.

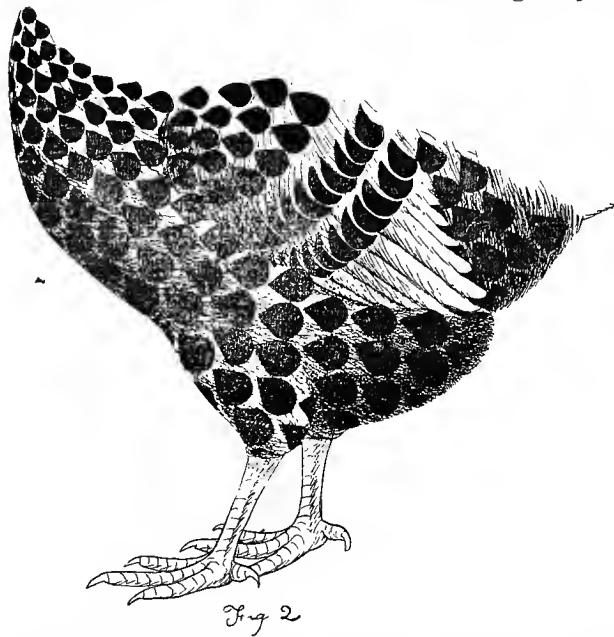
SILVER SPANGLED HAMBURG FEMALE

Ideality and Imperfections Illustrated and Described--Standard Requirements Discussed Section by Section--The Application of the Standard and How to Make Deductions for Defects--Correct Methods for Scoring and Judging.

IN describing the Spangled Hamburg female it will not be necessary to go into detail so completely as in the description of the male. From the fact the color description of male is so nearly like the female in some sections, a further discourse on the subject would be simply a repetition.

In shape, drawing Fig. 1 represents my idea of a Silver Spangled Hamburg female, and I offer it to the readers as such. The Standard says: "Head, short and small. Beak, of medium size. Comb, rose, neat in build. Wattles, small and thin, nicely rounded. Lobes, small, flat, almond shaped. Neck, tapering with full hackle. Back, nice short sweep to tail. Breast, broad and prominent. Body, round and symmetrical. Wings, large and carried low. Tail, full, expanded and carried moderately upright. Thighs, medium size. Shanks rather short."

I believe the drawing represents just such a bird as the Standard describes, and am willing to pass



as perfect in shape any specimen that can be produced as good.

In color the picture is somewhat overdrawn in order to show the spangles to good advantage. In the living specimen the spangles overlap, making a darker looking surface; in other words there are more feathers on the living specimen than are shown on the drawing, and for the benefit of comparison we show in Fig. 2 an outline of breast with about the right amount of feathering as found on our best specimens.

The sections of typical carriage and condition have been fully described in my former chapter, and the outs mentioned in scoring the male would fall equally heavy on the female.

HEAD.

The Standard says in describing head: "Short and small, beak of medium size." In Fig. 1 is shown such a head as I believe the Standard describes, and one that fits well this sprightly little breed, while in Fig. 3 is shown a head too long and snakey; too shallow through over eyes, beak not well proportioned. Such a head should be cut one point.

In Fig. 4 is shown another defective head, following closely after the style of Fig. 3. The beak is too long and straight; head too long, and should be discounted one point.

Fig 5 is a trifle better than either 3 or 4, but is poorly proportioned for a female, having a masculine look throughout. Such a head should be discounted one point.

In Fig. 6 is shown another style of head and one that has nearly every defect known to the breed. It is too long and too narrow; is not deep enough through; beak is too long and too straight and shows more of the masculine type. Such a head should be discounted one and one-half points.



Fig. 3.

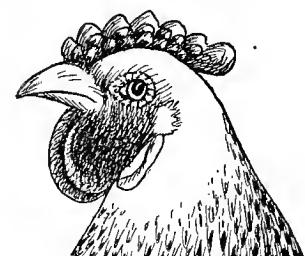


Fig. 4.

COMB.

This section, while not quite so important on the female as the male, is nevertheless one of the sections that must be watched at all times if we ex-



Fig. 5.

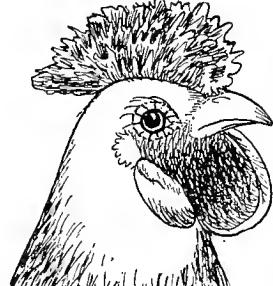
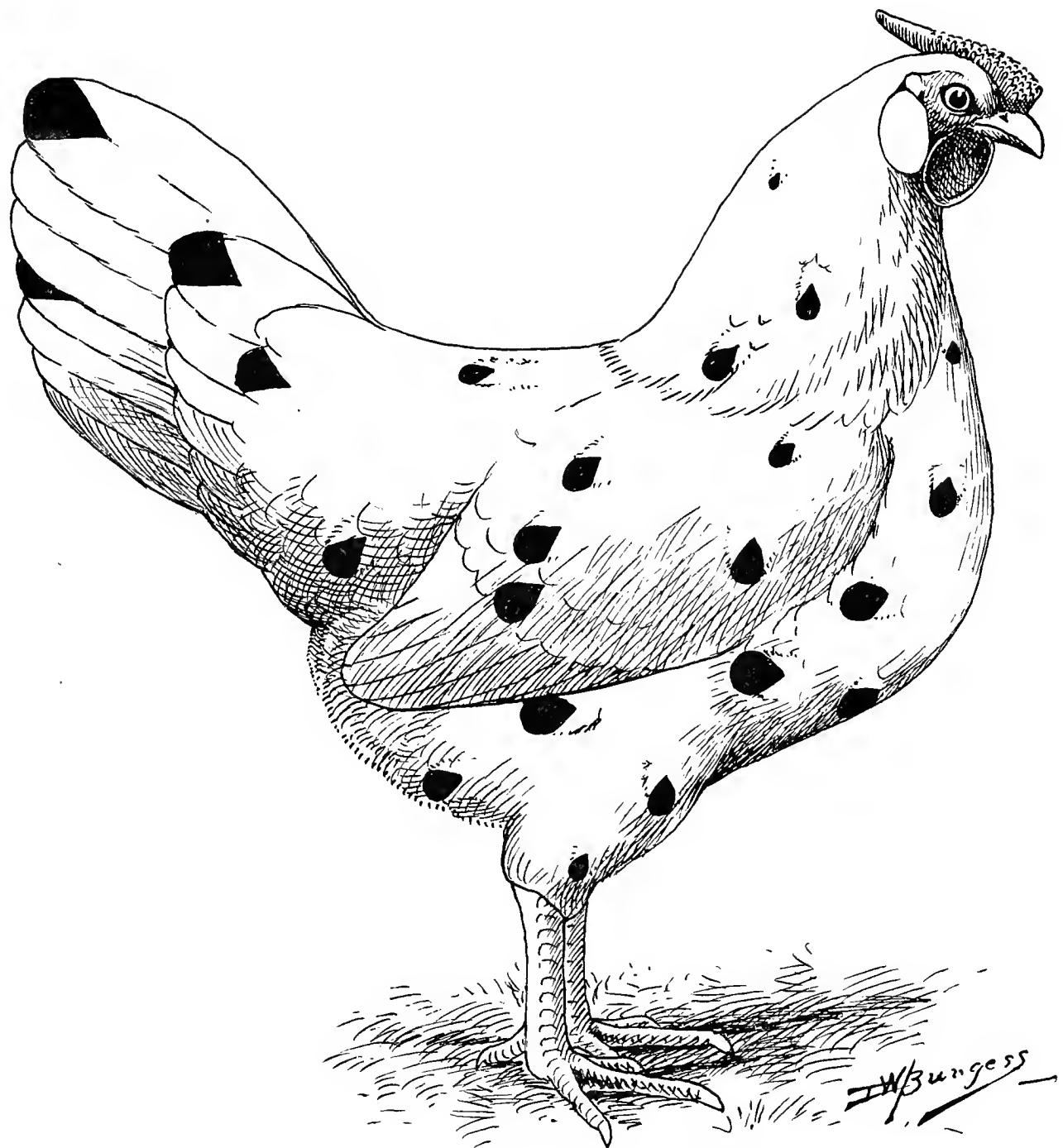


Fig. 6.

pect good results, either in the show room or breeding yards. The Standard says in describing this section: "Rose, similar to that of the male, but smaller."



STANDARD HAMBURG SHAPE—FEMALE.

Chart Fig. 7—Showing Standard Hamburg Female Shape, all varieties; also Standard color for different sections of Silver and Golden Spangled Hamburg Females.

In Figs. 1 and 7 are shown what we consider well proportioned combs for the female of this breed, and I believe they come as near fitting the Standard description as any that have yet been offered.

In Fig. 3 is shown a comb that is too narrow and too long. The spike turns down allowing the comb to follow the line of the skull. It is hazardous to breed from a comb of this type, as they are likely to reproduce all sorts of defects even to single combs. The spike following the head like a Wyandotte is a defect that all Hamburg breeders try to avoid.

Comb in Fig. 3 is too high in the center and uneven on the sides, and should be discounted $2\frac{1}{2}$ points.

In Fig. 4 is shown a comb that runs more to the Brahma type, being almost a pea comb in construction. The rear end winds up like a single comb, and should be disqualified for absence of spike, and never used in the breeding yards.

In Fig. 5 is shown a comb that falls over to one side, and follows the skull down to the junction of the head and neck. Such a comb should debar the bird from the breeding yard, and be discounted at least four points in the show room.

In Fig. 6 is shown a comb quite often met with in this breed, and one that you will often hear some old lady declare is the prettiest thing she ever saw. While it may look well to the amateur it is not the comb described by the Standard, and should not be used in the breeding yards. It is too large, unevenly serrated, hollow in front, and has a very poorly shaped spike. Such a comb should be discounted three points.

WATTLES AND EAR LOBES.

This is quite an important section in the Hamburgs, more especially in the males, but good lobes and wattles on females are eagerly sought for by

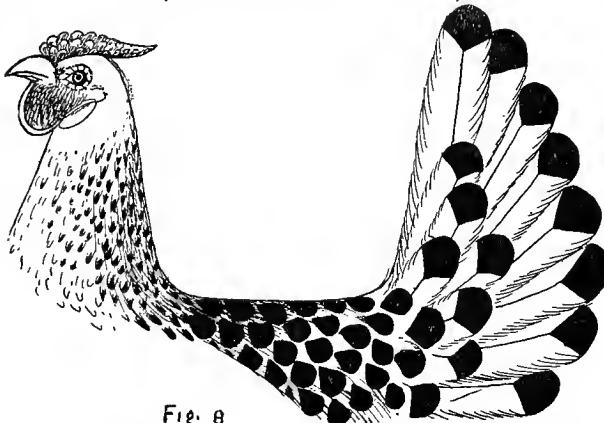


Fig. 8

our best breeders, and bad ones discarded on every hand. The Standard says in describing this section in the female: "Wattles, small, thin, well rounded. Ear lobes, small, flat, round or almond shaped, smooth, even, fitting close to the head; and in color, wattles bright red, ear lobes white." In Fig. 1 is shown a well proportioned ear lobe and wattle. You will notice the lobes are more almond shaped than round, and I find this style of lobe looks best on the Hamburgs, in fact on nearly all the small breeds.

In Figs 3, 4, 5 and 6 are shown wattles and lobes more or less defective and just such defects as are common in this variety.

Fig. 3 has wattles badly proportioned, one of them much smaller than the other and wrinkled at the edges. Such a wattle should be discounted one

point. The ear lobes are long and stringy and off color at the lower edge. Such a lobe as this should be cut one point on shape and one-half for color.

Fig 4 shows about the right size wattles, but one of them is smaller than the other and should be cut one-half point. The lobes in Fig. 4 are too long,

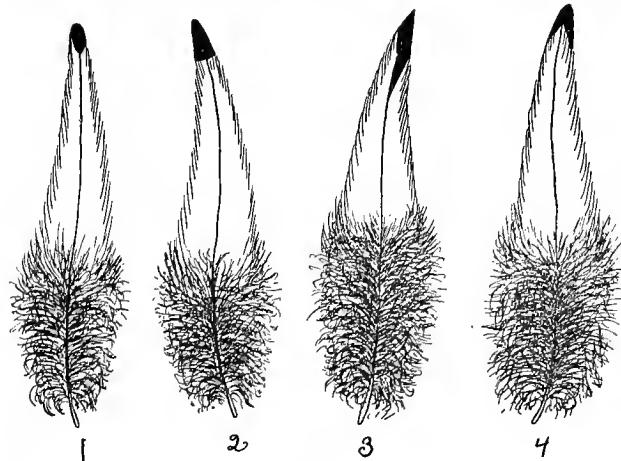


Fig. 9

too narrow and of uneven surface, and should be cut one point.

Fig. 5 is better in shape of lobes, but wattles out too far and do not hang free as they should. Such wattles should be discounted one-half point. Lobes

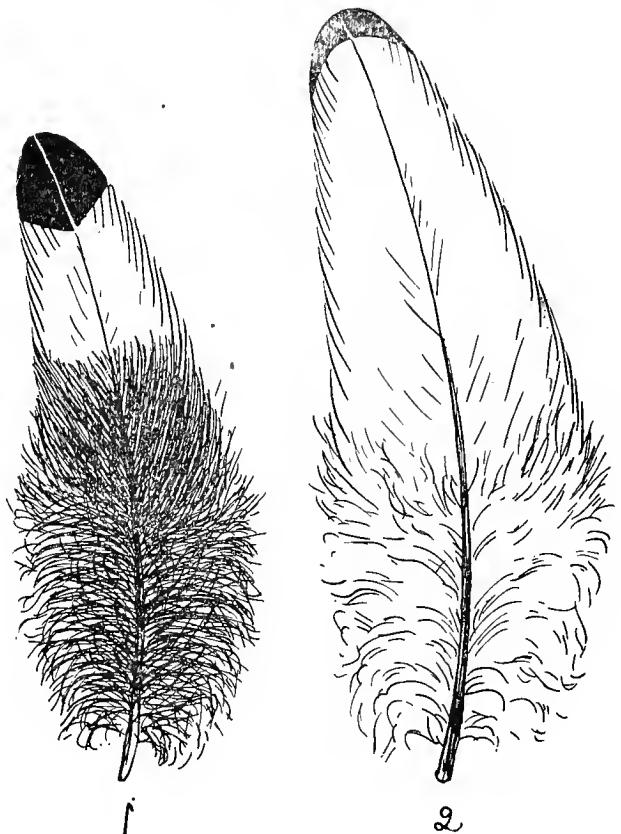


Fig. 10

are a trifle long and narrow and show a streaking of red at the bottom. They should be discounted one-half on shape, one-half on color.

Fig. 6 is somewhat better than Fig. 5 in shape, lobes being well proportioned, but showing a tracing of red at the bottom. Wattles slightly uneven

in size, and should be cut one-half on shape. Lobes one-half on color.

In view of the fact that we will have to refer quite often to the chart in describing the remaining sections, I will now call attention to it and in referring to same will call it Fig. 7.

While Fig. 1 shows well proportioned spangles, it shows only the surface color, and in order to enlighten the breeder as much as possible, we show in the chart the undercolor of the feathers, calling especial attention to the fact that it is very important that the undercolor be kept dark at all times, if good black, well proportioned spangles are expected. Too much black in undercolor is far more preferable than not enough.

In our chart Fig. 7 we have endeavored to show good shape in all sections, as well as correct color, simply presenting enough feathers in each section to thoroughly illustrate the correct length and position of feathers.

NECK.

I will now take up the section of neck and in view of the many interpretations of the description

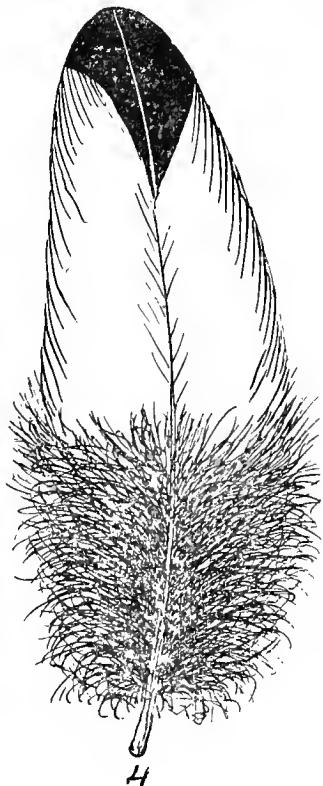
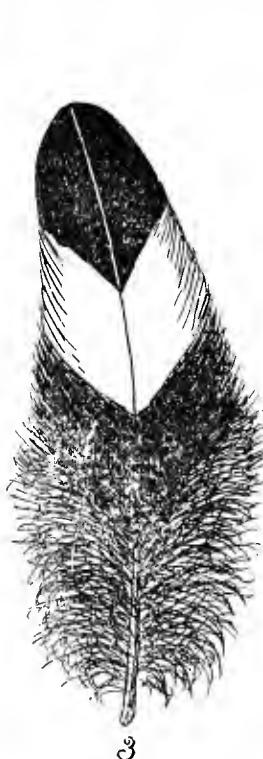


Fig. 10 1/2

given in the Standard on this section, will show both defective shape and color, as I interpret the Standard. I would refer the readers to Figs. 1 and 7.

The Standard says in describing this section, in shape, "tapering, with full hackle." In color, "clear white, the longer feathers ending with a small black spangle." The description of color is not as plain as it should be, and gives room for criticism. Our opinion is that the short feathers directly around the head should be white, but as soon as the length is added that goes to make up either the long or short hackle, then they should show the spangles in proportion to the size of the feather.

In Fig. 1 is shown what I believe to be the correct color for this section, and just such color as

I have found on the best specimens of this breed that I have handled.

In Fig. 8 is shown a neck that is defective both in shape and color. It is only colored on the back

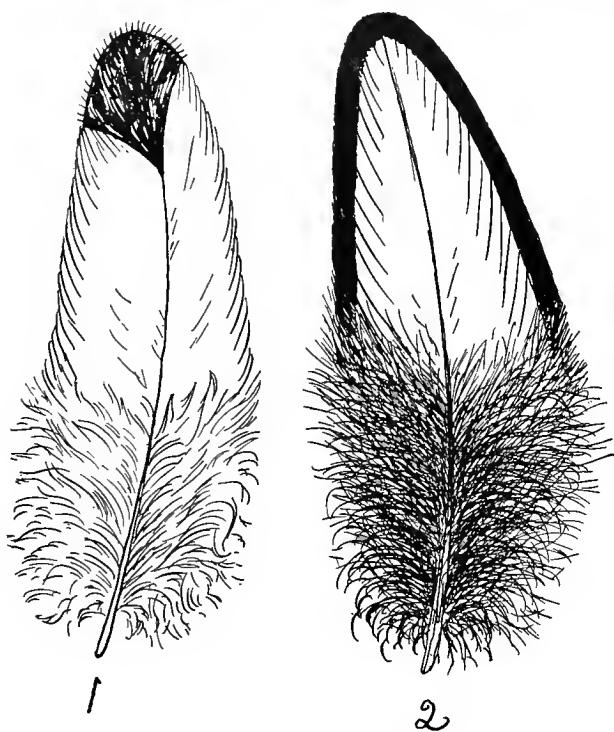


Fig. 11

of neck, and spangles badly out of proportion there, while at the front and side of neck the color runs

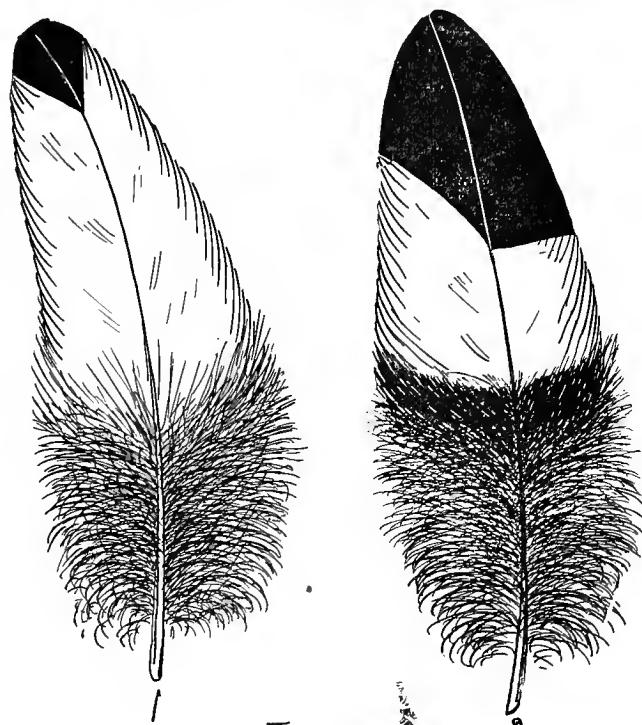


Fig. 12

almost entirely out, giving the neck a smutty straw color, which should discount it $1\frac{1}{2}$ points. As to shape, it is too straight and scant, and should be discounted one point.

In Fig. 9 are shown four defective feathers that are quite often found in this section. Feather No. 1 in this group is too small, making the neck look ticked rather than spangled. Such a neck should be discounted one point. Feather No. 2 is blunt in the spangle, and there is hardly enough of the black. A neck like this should be cut one point. Feather No. 3 is spangled, but the black is carried too far on one side. Such a neck should be discounted one-half point. Feather No. 4 is the most common defect of them all and the hardest to get rid of. It shows a lacing instead of a spangle, and should be discounted $1\frac{1}{8}$ points.

BACK.

With the female as well as the male a good back is one of the most important of all sections, as without it one can expect to make but little progress in breeding, either for shape or color. I remember once hearing one of the best posted breeders with whom I ever talked make this remark: "If I could only have one color section good, let that be the back above all else." Just as much importance should be attached to the shape as well as to the color of this section. Get back right first, then build the rest of the structure. In our chart Fig. 7 also in drawing Fig. 1 is shown a well shaped, well proportioned back, one that I believe fills the Standard requirement, which for shape should be of medium length with short sweep to tail. In color it should be silvery white, free from mousing or lacing, each feather ending with a black spangle.

In Figs. 1 and 7 is shown what I believe to be the proper color for this section, while in Figs. 10

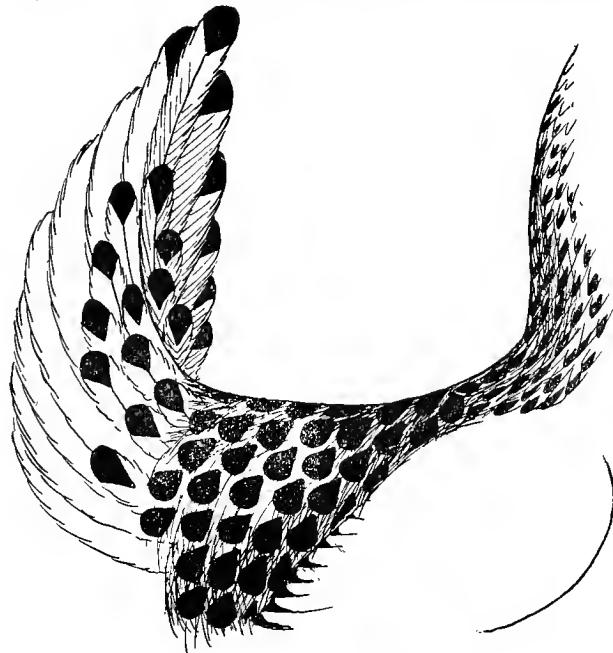


Fig. 15

and $10\frac{1}{2}$ are shown groups of feathers that are more or less defective. Feather No. 1 is quite good in spangle, but not absolutely perfect as its points are a trifle blunt, and the undercolor is too black for standard and should be discounted one-half point. No. 2 is a feather that you may expect if you lose the dark undercolor. This has a small crescentic lacing with white undercolor, and in many cases where undercolor is white, feathers with no black at all at the ends will be found.

A back showing feathers like No. 2 should be discounted two points. Feather No. 3 is too strong in undercolor and spangle is too large. This would be an elegant back to breed to where birds were lightening up, but for show should be discounted three-fourths point. Feather No. 4 is taken from a point near the tail, and is well proportioned as to white and black, but one side of spangle is a bit more prominent than the other and should be discounted one-fourth point.

In shape, back in Fig. 8 is too long and too straight; it shows narrow when viewed from the front, and should be discounted one point. Fig. 15



Fig. 16

shows the same defects only much narrower at the junction of tail and should be cut $1\frac{1}{2}$ points.

BREAST.

This is another important section both as to shape and color and is valued by the Standard at 10 points. The Standard says in describing this section, "broad and prominent in shape, with clear silvery white plumage, free from mousing or lacing, each feather ending with a black spangle, the spangles being proportioned to the size of feathers."

In Fig. 7 is shown a well shaped breast, with sufficient plumage to show correct color. You will note the spangles are smaller up near the throat and gradually increase in size as the feathers enlarge.

In Fig. 1 is shown some well proportioned spangles, but there is not enough feathers intact; this section was drawn in this way in order to display the spangles to better advantage.

In Fig. No. 2 is shown a breast and body that is well proportioned so far as color is concerned, displaying this section about as it is found on the best specimens, but it is somewhat clumsy in proportion, and fits well the type of old hens often met with in the show room, and should be discounted one-half point on breast and the same on body.

In Fig. 16 is shown a breast that is too shallow and flat. It is too long for depth and is poorly proportioned from point of breast to shoulder. Such a breast should be discounted two points for shape.

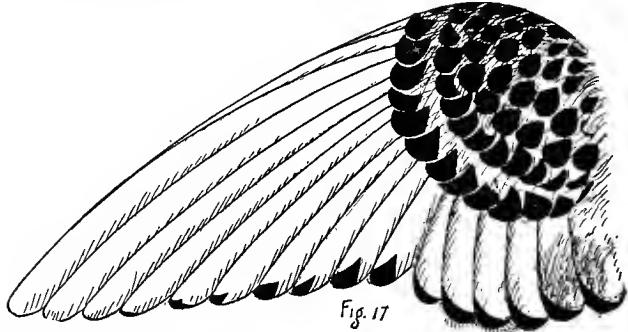
Spangles are too small, and lack strength of color, and is just such a breast as is usually found accompanying light colored necks and straw colored backs. The breast should be cut one point on color.

Figs. 11 and 12 show four defective feathers. Feather 2 in Fig. 11 shows a lacing rather than a spangle, and is a defect with which one frequently meets. Should feathers of this kind be prominent in any section the bird should be disqualified.

Feather No. 1 in Fig. 11 is quite often noticed. It is too light in undercolor and a trace of white shows in spangle, and still another tracing of white on the outside of spangle. A section showing feathers like this should be discounted one-half point for light undercolor, one-half point for white in spangle and one-half point for white on edge of spangle.

In Fig. 12 feather No. 1 shows too light in undercolor and a trifle small in spangle, making too light a surface. The section showing such feathers should be discounted one-half point.

Feather No. 2, in Fig. 12, is too dark, both in undercolor and surface; the black should stop with the undercolor or downy portion of feather, but



this one runs past into the knitted portion and is too large in spangle and one side of spangle runs straight to surface instead of following the web to shaft. A breast showing feathers like this should be discounted one and one-half points.

BODY AND FLUFF.

Other sections being good, body and fluff are seldom discounted. But, when the breast and back are defective the body is usually defective to some extent.

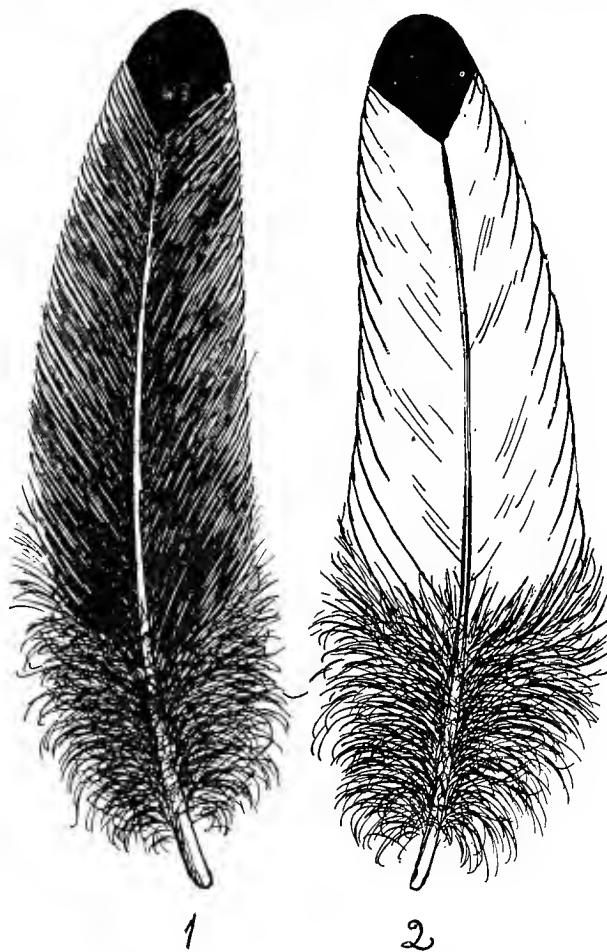
In Fig. 1 and 7 are shown well proportioned bodies, and balance well with the other sections, making a symmetrical outline. In Fig. 7 is shown a feather in body that is well proportioned in black and white, and a fac-simile of those that are found on the best specimens. In color, this section as found on our best specimens is rather dark; undercolor is quite black, and is well illustrated in Fig. 2, while in Fig. 16 is shown color that is too white under, and spangles too small.

Figs. 1 and 7 show the shape as found on our best females just at maturity, while Fig. 2 shows more the type of body found on matured hens. A specimen showing a body like Fig. 16 should be discounted one and one-half points on shape and one point on color.

The Standard says in describing this section: "Body round and symmetrical, fluff rather short." You will note by referring to Fig. 16 that this section is defective in every way. It is too short when viewed from the side, too narrow when viewed from above, and is flat, failing in the well rounded out, symmetrical body so much sought for.

WINGS.

This section is a very important one, inasmuch as it concerns color, the Standard allowing six for color to four for shape. In shape the wing is rather large as compared to the size of the specimen, as our Hamburgs like our Leghorns can fly over a ten-foot fence unless the flight feathers are clipped. In Figs. 1 and 7 are shown well proportioned wings, as regards shape, and in Fig. 7 the



spangles as found on our best specimens are shown. Fig. 1 is overdrawn in color in order properly to display the spangles.

Fig. 17 displays a wing quite frequently noticed in the show room. It possesses some good features with several bad ones. I will first give the Standard description of this section, that the defects may be best understood: "Bows, silvery white, distinctly spangled with black. Primaries, white, each feather ending in a black spangle. Secondaries, clear silvery white, feathers ending with a large black spangle, shaped like a half moon. Coverts, silvery white, free from lacing, each feather ending in a black spangle, forming two distinct parallel black bars across the wing."

You will note the white is referred to as silvery white, and a word in description of the color may not be out of place. If you will place white on a back ground of black, you will get a silvery white, and this color when referred to in the Standard is in the description of some of our standard breeds

having white and black in their plumage, it is the overlapping of white on black. It will also be noted, the Standard says, in describing secondaries: "Clear silvery white." In Fig. 17 you will observe that the last two feathers are more or less pencilled with black. This defect is by no means uncommon, not alone in Hamburgs, but in all breeds having similar markings, and should be discounted one-half point. There is a faint tracing of white on lower edge of two feathers, which should be discounted one-fourth point. Flights are nicely spangled where primaries and secondaries meet, but the

and four for color, and in Figs. 1 and 7 are shown well shaped, well proportioned tails for a Hamburg female. In Fig. 7 the spangles are well displayed, both in main tail and tail coverts. In a well shaped tail of this breed you will find seven feathers on either side, with an abundance of tail coverts. The end of main tail in Fig. 7 may look a trifle low to some of our readers, but I ask that you take into consideration the pose of body, with head and breast thrown a trifle back, thus dropping the tail a little below its natural position.

In Fig. 8 is shown a tail that is carried too high and is poorly spread, and is just such a tail as might be expected to accompany a long straight back and scanty neck, similar to type shown in this figure. A tail like Fig. 8 should be cut one point for being too high and one-half point for being poorly spread.

In Fig. 15 is shown a defect repeatedly occurring in both Hamburgs and Leghorns, and I have often heard breeders say they could not account for it, as the back was straight, and when the chick was young the tail was perfectly straight and properly spread. This defect is often caused by the perches being too close to the wall for a grown fowl. For the chick they are all right, but as the body and tail grow in length, the tail rests against the wall until it is pushed over to one side and twisted, so that in the adult fowl you find a crooked, wry tailed bird. When defects of this kind crop out, examine your perches and see to it that they are of sufficient distance from the wall, then remove the entire tail and the chances are when it grows in again it will be as straight as when the chick was young. A tail like Fig. 15 would disqualify the specimen.

In Fig. 18 is shown a defect quite common in the tail of Hamburg females. Feather No. 1 is intended to represent the back of feather, as seen from the rear. Feather No. 2, in Fig. 19, has the same defect, only in less proportion. Quite often a tail will look well when viewed from in front, as only a tracing of black will show, but when you look at the other side of feathers you will find they streak up similar to feather No. 1, in Fig. 18, and should be discounted one and one-half points. Feather No. 1, Fig. 19, shows what is termed a crescentic spangle and one that is often found in tails of this breed. Such tails should be discounted one and one-half points. Feather No. 2, in Fig. 19, has the right amount of black, but fails in shape of spangle, and is too dark in web of feather. It should be discounted one-half point.

LEGS AND TOES.

Legs and toes have a value of six point in the Standard and when perfect in shape should have thighs of medium size and well developed. Shanks rather short and slender. In Figs. 1 and 7 are shown well proportioned legs and toes, and in our former chapter on males are shown some defects that answer just as well for the female, and a repetition is not necessary. I believe a careful study of this chapter, together with the charts, will enable the reader to form a good general idea of Spangled Hamburgs, and I trust may assist in making these varieties what they should be—popular in all shows.

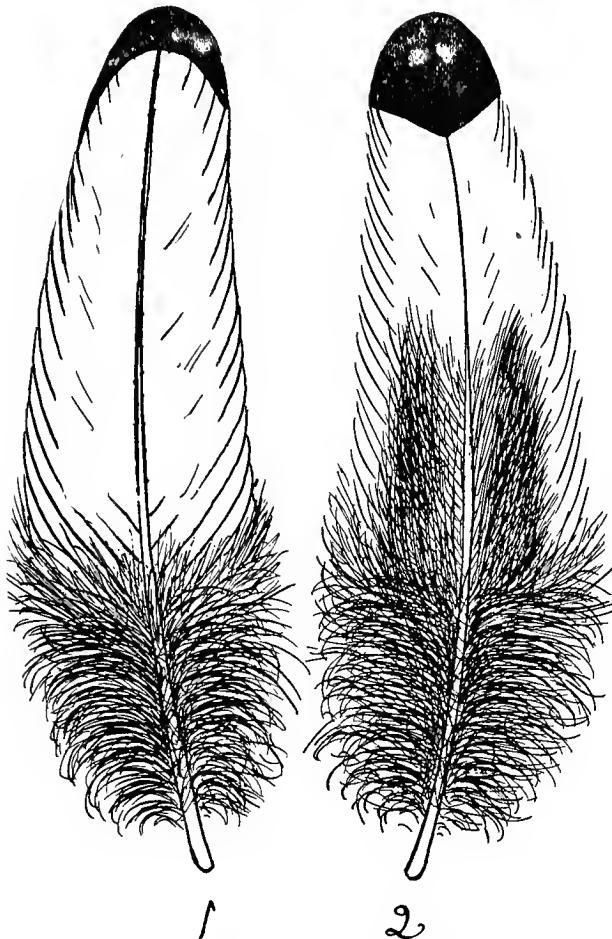


Fig. 19

black gradually disappears as it approaches the long flight feathers, until there is no black at all on the last feathers. A wing showing this defect should be discounted one point. The spangles forming upper bar are not distinct enough, and should be discounted one-half point.

TAIL.

This section is usually good in shape in both males and females; in fact, it is doubtful if we have a breed that is better or that reproduces better in this section, taking one specimen with another. The Standard allows it eight points, four for shape

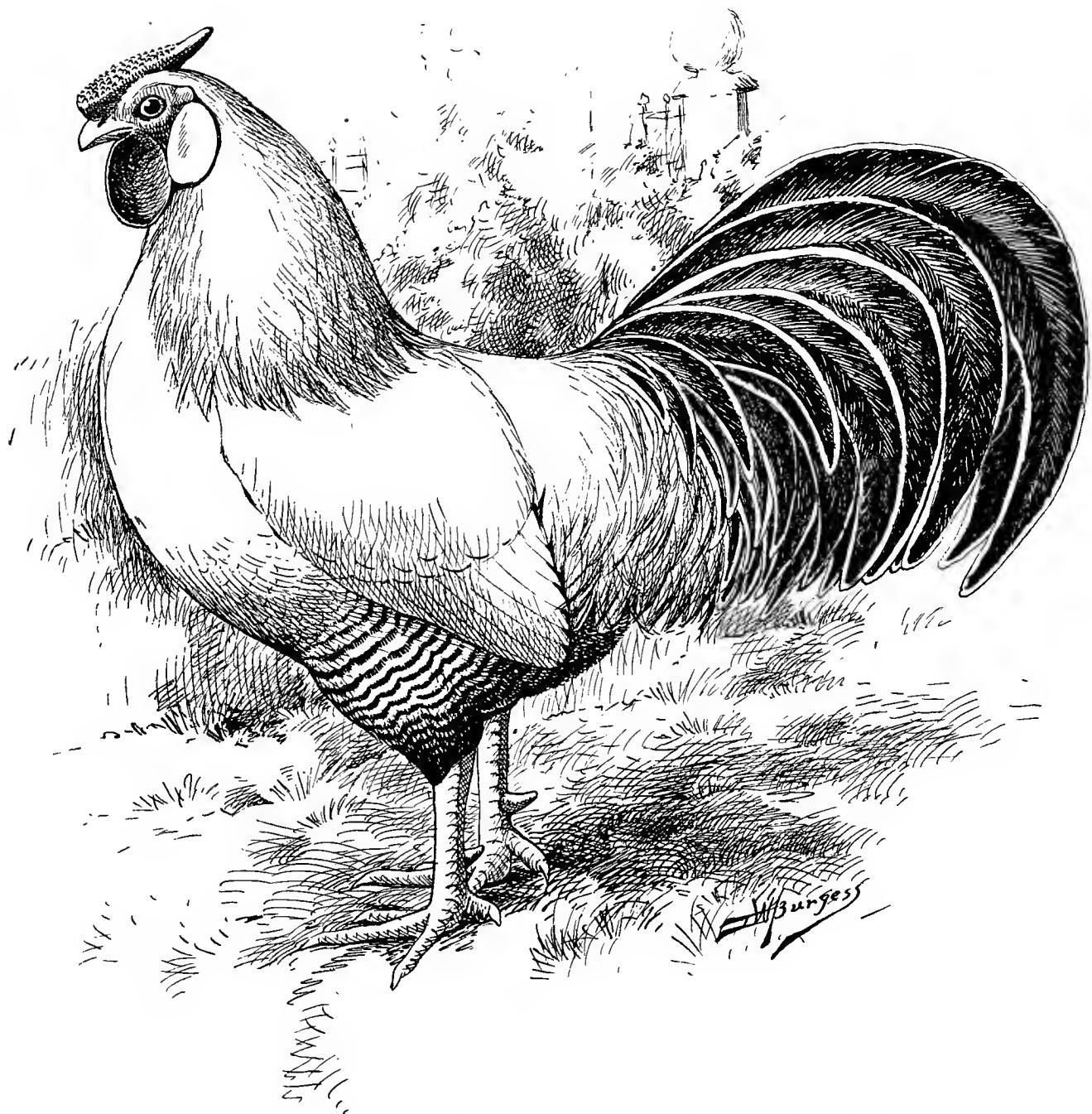


FIG. 1—STANDARD SILVER PENCILED HAMBURG MALE.

PENCILED HAMBURGS.

The Silver and Golden Penciled Varieties Fully Described and Illustrated Section by Section--The Handsomest of All Hamburgs.

Without doubt the most strikingly handsome fowl of all the small varieties is the Penciled Hamburg. Especially is this true when the specimen is well bred and shows the color in all sections as it should be.

The Silver male starts white in front, showing pure white neck and breast, but it gradually darkens as it approaches the rear until the main tail and fluff is black. The gradual blending of white and black until it merges into the opposite color is one of the prettiest studies we have ever found in the small varieties. While the Golden male has the same characteristics as the Silver there is not such a contrast between the gold and black as there is between the white and black. In females I rather fancy the Golden more than the Silver. The bright reddish bay ground color with the peculiarly shaped metallic black penciling is surely a study for artists. One finds but few of these handsome birds in our American shows, but the fanciers on the other side seem to have large classes and great quality at all their leading exhibitions. A better understanding of this breed in all sub-varieties will do much to popularize them, and the kind words of encouragement I have had from the breeders all along the line show conclusively that my work has been well received by them.

In taking up the penciled variety and in pointing out the discounts both as to shape and color I will use for my feather illustration defective ones taken from a Silver Penciled male and female, and in order to make the article more instructive I will use a chart of both male and female showing correct color in all sections as interpreted by the reading of the Standard. In this way I fancy I can best serve the amateur and make myself more clearly understood by all.

In the illustrations of both ideal specimens and charts I have tried to give the correct shape as I have found it in the best exhibition birds of both sexes. While the color of the Silver male should be white in breast, neck and back in order to conform to the Standard, it is well to remember that some of our best breeding birds carry the black penciling pretty well forward and it is no uncommon thing to see clearly defined penciling on some feathers in all these sections. In fact to keep up the strong penciling of the female it is necessary to have a surplus of color in the male to draw upon, and in my opinion we might pencil the male similarly to the female without detracting in any way from the beauty of the bird. The Standard in describing color of the Penciled bird says: "Each feather distinctly penciled across with parallel bars of greenish black, the bars forming as nearly as possible parallel lines across the bird." This is a very poor color description and shows how careless we allow ourselves to get in the descriptions of some of the varieties that are not generally shown. There is an idea prevalent among our breeders that the barring on the Plymouth Rock and the penciling on Hamburgs is the same, but such is not the case, in fact, there is a radical dif-

ference when the two feathers are shown together, and for the benefit of comparison I will, in describing some of the sections of the female, show the feathers from both breeds. The Standard describes the color of Barred Rocks as follows: "Body color bluish gray, barred with narrow parallel lines of a dark blue that stop short of a positive black." Here in another poor description of color. It should read: Each feather barred straight across with parallel bars of a dark blue, the outside bar black in all sections, the barring close and clearly defined in neck, back, breast and body. In describing color of the Penciled Hamburg it should read: Shaft of feather white, outer edge of feather laced with white covering about one-half as much surface as the black bar directly under it, each feather distinctly penciled across with crescentic or scalloped barring of black, the black being heavier at the edges with only a slight tracing of same where the scallops meet at the shaft. Taking this description of color as the correct one, and I feel that it is correct, I believe the new breeder can form a better idea as to how his birds should look and be able to make a fair selection in any exhibition room. I have no intention of putting myself above the Standard law or setting up my ideas in variance with the Standard makers. I am persuaded, however, that my description of color will be better understood by the amateur and I know that some of our breeds did not have the proper attention when the last Standard was revised, and for this reason make bold to offer the suggestions.

The Standard describes alike the shape of all Hamburgs, and in view of the fact that I have called especial attention to shape in scoring the Spangled variety it will not be necessary to take up this branch of the subject again.

Comb is the same in all varieties and the discounts on defects referred to in the chapter on combs in the Spangled variety will fall equally heavy on the Penciled ones, both male and female.

In color I shall devote quite a bit of time both to the illustrations and the descriptions, and my aim shall be to describe and measure the defects as I see them.

Since symmetry, condition, comb, wattles and ear lobes are alike in all varieties I will pass them by and begin with the neck of the male.

PENCILED HAMBURG MALE.

NECK OF MALE.

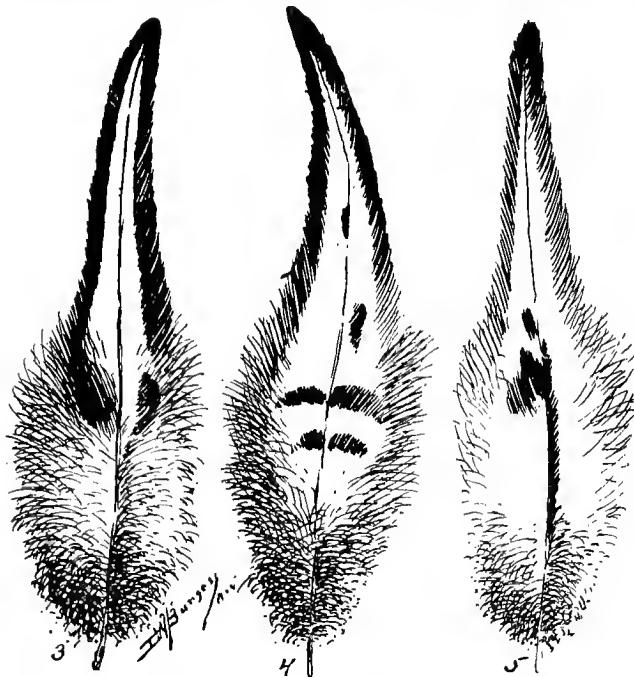
The Standard says this section should be clear white. Not silvery white, but clear white, and if it should be clear white then no black should appear in the undercolor, as black or dark slate under white gives us the silvery white that will be referred to in descriptions of back.

There are many of our best Penciled Hamburgs a straw or brassy color in neck, back and wings that is very objectionable, but hard to get rid of, especially in summer months. While I do not bank



FIG. 2.—PENCILED HAMBURG MALE CHART.

much on the sunburn theory, there is no doubt better color as a rule, on our white birds in winter than in summer. That the sun has some effect on



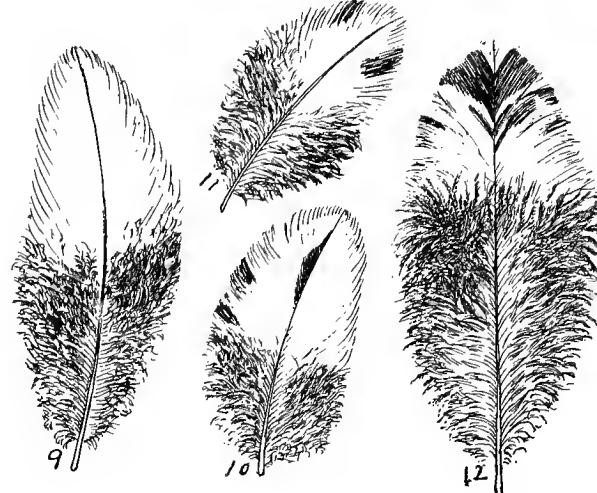
this color goes without saying, but white color can be produced that will withstand the sun's rays and be pure white all the time.

In the plate of feathers I show three defective ones that are often met with in our best specimens. Feather No. 3 shows the sunburn or brassy surface and has a small black spot near the center of feather, and should be discounted one point. Feather No. 4 is good in surface color, but has a num-

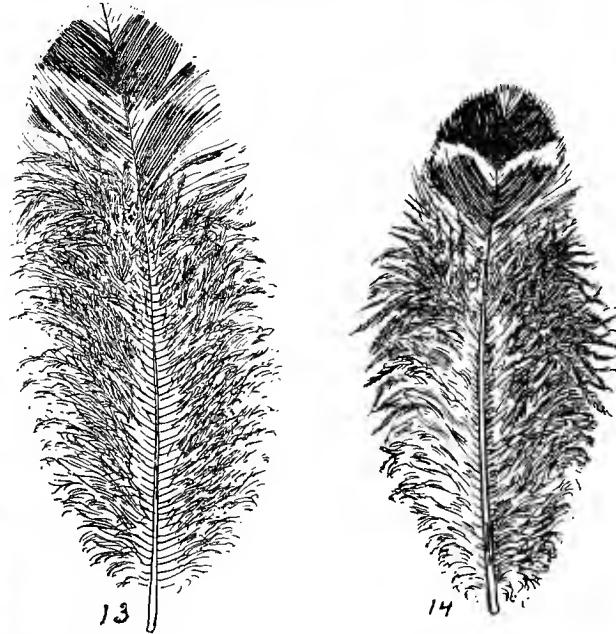
too dark in center of feather with black along the shaft, and should be discounted one point. The Standard says the undercolor should be bluish-gray and it is well to consider this, as the undercolor of the Penciled variety is much lighter than in the Spangled.

BACK.

The color description here is silvery white, both as to back and saddle, which would lead one to believe the Standard makers intended to allow more black in the undercolor of this section. In view of the fact that the feathers of the male gradually



darken as they approach the tail, it is fair to presume that some dark would appear in the undercolor of back, but not in such proportions as the feathers 6, 7 and 8 indicate. Feather No. 6 is quite dark in undercolor and carries the color nearly to



surface and should be cut three-fourths point. Feather No. 7 is not quite so dark under, but carries a sort of dirty brown color to surface, tracing on both sides of shaft, and should be discounted one point. Feather No. 8 is quite good for a saddle feather, except the dark spot where knitted portion joins on to down. Such a feather should be cut one-half point.

ber of small black spots scattered through it and a trace of barring in undercolor, and should be discounted one and a half points. Feather No. 5 shows

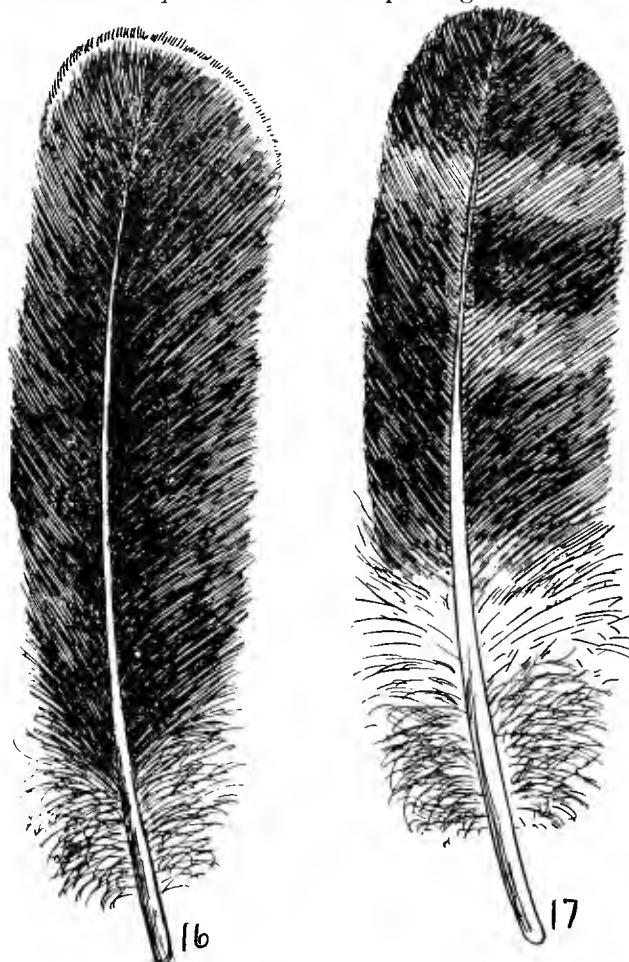
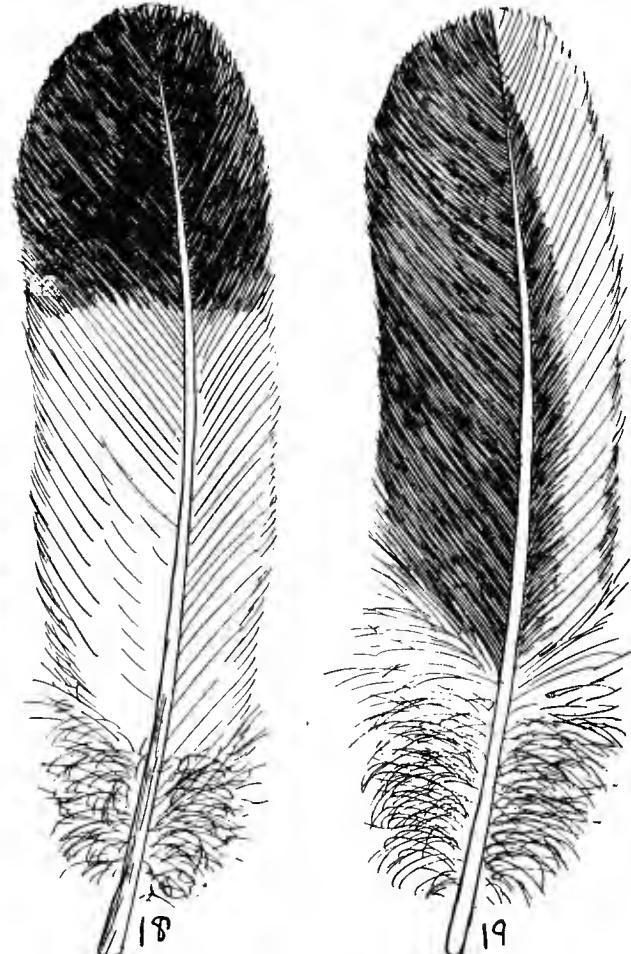


In scoring the section of back it is well to keep always in mind the important fact that some color is needed at all times to supply the female, and a breeding male that makes his mark in the breeding pen is not always the best show bird. I should be slow to discount a male that was otherwise good that showed a tracing of black in back, even though this black should run in the form of a barring.

BREAST.

This section should be white, and I know of no reason why the upper portion should not be free from black. The undercolor here as in all sections should be bluish-gray, and so delicate is the shade that it is hardly discernible in the average specimen. Feather No. 9 shows this color, but in too strong a form, and carries it too far out. A feather like No. 9 should be discounted one-half point. Feather No. 10 was taken from near the center of breast at a point where the plumage should be

have found, and I have tried to portray in Fig. 1 the color as I have found it. In the best colored birds where the sections of body join on breast there is a slight tracing of penciling on the surface; this penciling gradually grows darker as it passes over the thighs into fluff, which winds up nearly



white, and shows plainly what the tendency is when our birds are bred dark. A breast like this should be discounted one and a half points. Feather No. 11 was taken from well up on breast and shows black on surface. Such feathers should be cut one point.

BODY AND FLUFF.

I will now refer the readers to Fig. 1, also chart Fig. 2, and ask that you carefully examine the peculiar blending of color and note the manner in which it darkens up. The Standard says in describing this section: "Body white; fluff black powdered with gray." This color description is not good when compared with the best specimens I

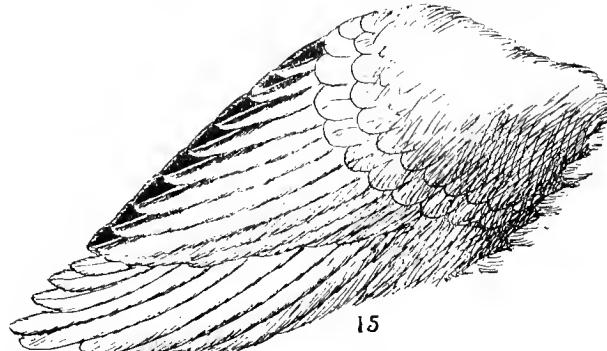
have found. The black is caused by distinct barring as shown in Fig. 2, and in my opinion this color is correct and should be standard. In Feather No. 12 we find nearly a black end to feather, the barring or penciling having covered nearly the entire end of feather with black. This feather would naturally make a dark surface and give some clue to the standard description, also feather No. 13, but it does not make a pretty surface; in fact it is far from it, and should be discounted one and a half points. Feather 14 is far better and was taken from the body of a finely marked bird, but this lacing is not quite even enough, last bar being too wide, and should be discounted one-half point. I have tried to demonstrate in the chart the proportion of black and white that I believe this section should possess, submitting to the readers with the agreement to pass without a discount any specimen as good in color.

WINGS.

This section is a difficult one to describe and a more difficult one to understand. The Standard says: "Bows white; primaries white; secondaries, upper web black with a narrow border of white or gray on the edge, lower web white with a narrow stripe of black next to the shaft of the feather. I have carefully studied this section on the best birds I can find of the Golden and Silver varieties,

and show in the chart also in Fig. 1 the color that I have found. In Fig. 15 is shown a wing that conforms to the Standard, but in my opinion it is not as handsome as the one in Fig. 1, neither do I believe it should be standard. This variety is inclined to pencil any and all feathers that show color, and I believe the wings, especially the secondaries, should be no exception to the rule.

One of the defects that I have found is the straw or sunburn on wing bows, and I presume this is a defect hard to eliminate, so long as we allow some



dark in undercolor. This straw or sunburn color should be discounted from one-half to one as in degree. Another defect and a common one in dark breeding males is a show of penciling or barring on wing bows, quite often carried well down into primaries. This defect should be cut from one-half to one and a half points.

TAIL.

This section should be black. Sickles and coverts black, edged with a distinct lacing of white. A Standard tail is strikingly handsome, that is a tail as shown in Fig. 1 or the chart, but it is seldom we find them so good. The main tail feathers will insist on running white at base, or will pencil up somewhat after the style of a Barred Rock. The coverts and sickles will run blunt, or show a dirty sort of washed out color as shown in the drawing. In feather No. 16 the white outside edging at end



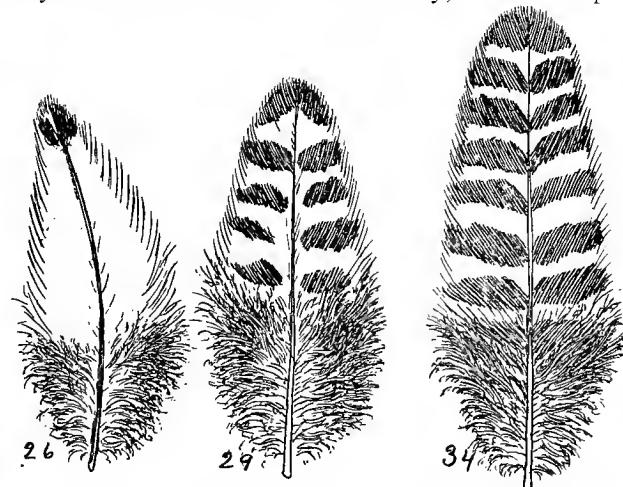
of feather is a serious defect, as from its position it can be seen from the outside and should be discounted one-half point. Feather No. 17 is white at base and shows a sort of barring similar to the fe-

male, and should be discounted one and a half points. Feather No. 18 is nearly all white, but when viewed from the surface looks better than feather 16. Feather No. 18 is often met with in Silvers and especially when the bird is unusually white in body and fluff. A tail with feathers like this should be discounted two points. Feather No. 19 shows a common defect in both male and female, and is usually found down near the lower side of tail. It spoils the black color effect so much sought for by breeders of this variety. A tail showing feathers like No. 19 should be discounted one and a half points. Feather No. 20 illustrates a sickle that is found frequently. The end shows black enough, and the tail when viewed from behind looks all right, but when viewed from the front shows white. The discount should be one point. Feather 21 is a covert that you are sure to find on a tail showing sickles like No. 20. It takes more after the female style of barring, with smutty or dirty black tracings, and should be discounted one and a half points. Feather 22 is too white at the point and fails in the white lacing, and should be cut one point. Feather 23 is good, except the outside edging of white stops short of the end, making a black point to feather and should be cut one-half point. In shape this section has been fully described in scoring the Spangled variety, and what has been said there in regard to defects will apply equally as well in the Penciled variety.

PENCILED HAMBURG FEMALE.

COLOR OF FEMALE.

The more I study the color of this handsome little female the more I admire it, and I can't for the life of me understand why there is not more of them bred. In judging them at the shows I was always struck with their rare beauty, and their pe-



cular deportment when on exhibition only adds to their interest. They are shy and reserved, and it is only by persistent coaxing that you get one to stand quietly while you pet or handle them. However, when once you get their confidence there is no bird that shows its fondness for caressing to any greater extent, neither is there one that you will give better care, as they are as dainty as a young lady on her coming-out night.

With the female as well as with the male, the shape description as referred to in the Spangled variety will answer just as well here, and no further

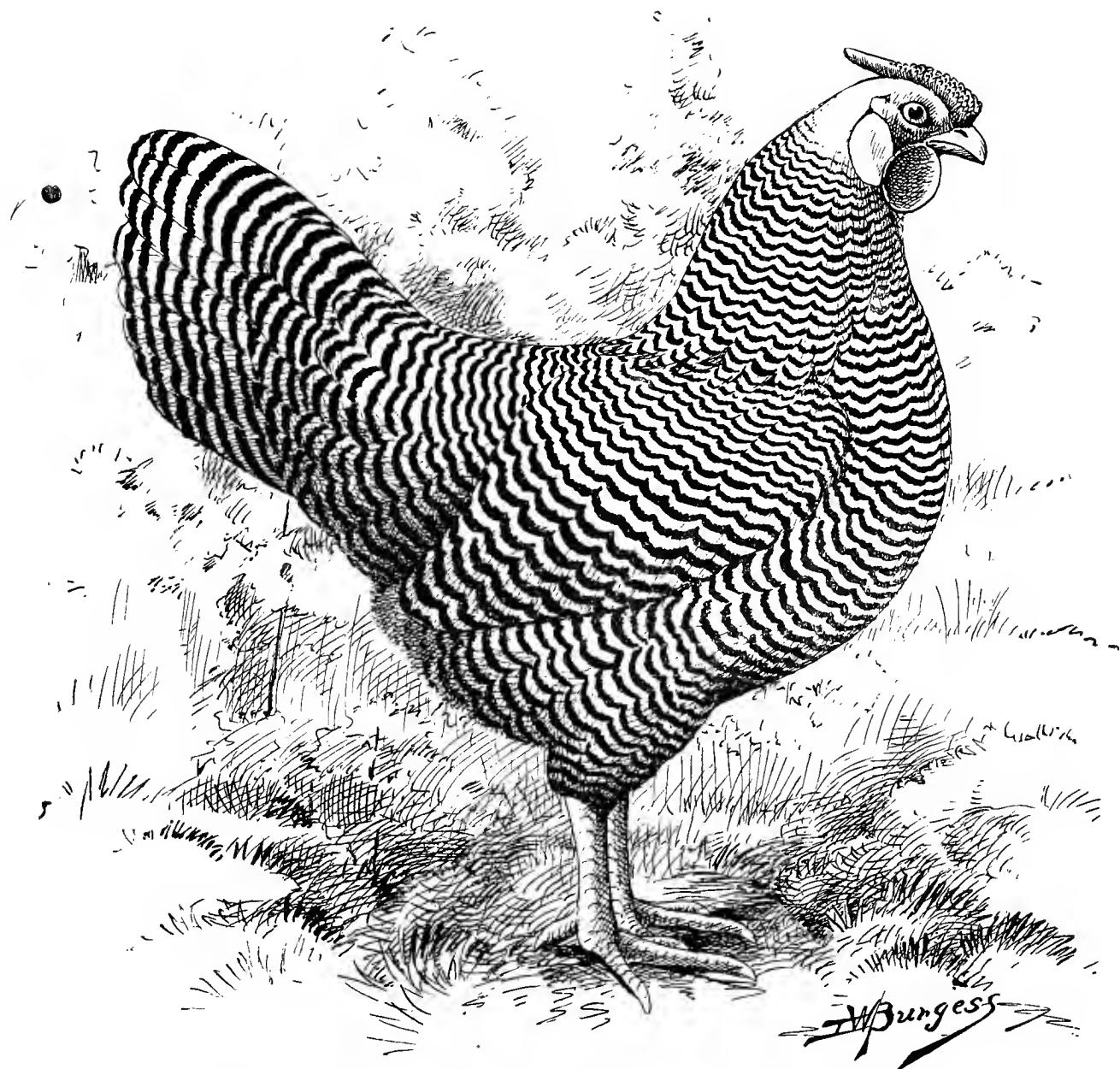
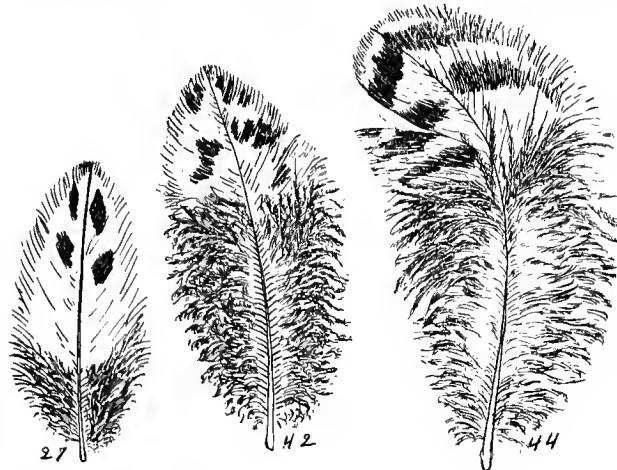


FIG. 24—STANDARD SILVER PENCILED HAMBURG FEMALE.

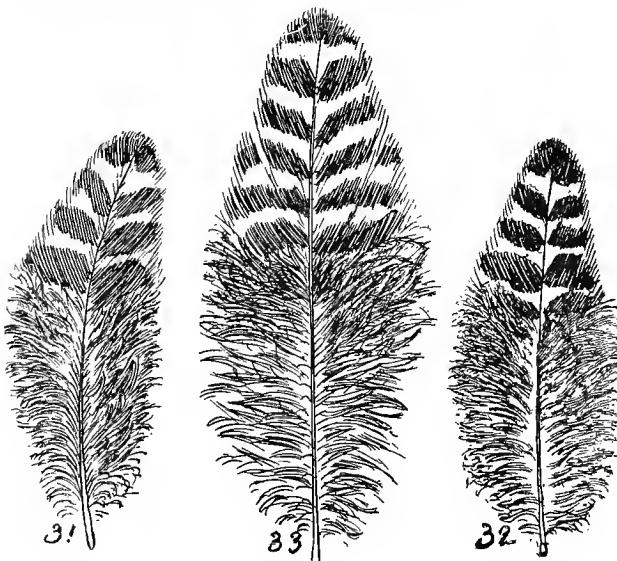
description will be given. The matter of color is the all important one, and I shall try to so explain it that my readers will understand alike. In Fig. 24, also in chart Fig. 25, is shown what I believe to be the correct color for the female of this variety and by a careful study of these two and a comparison of the defective feathers that I will call up



from time to time, I am convinced the reader will arrive at the right idea and be able to select their best specimens. In all the important sections I have illustrated from two to four defective feathers, with an approximate value of these feathers to the section they represent.

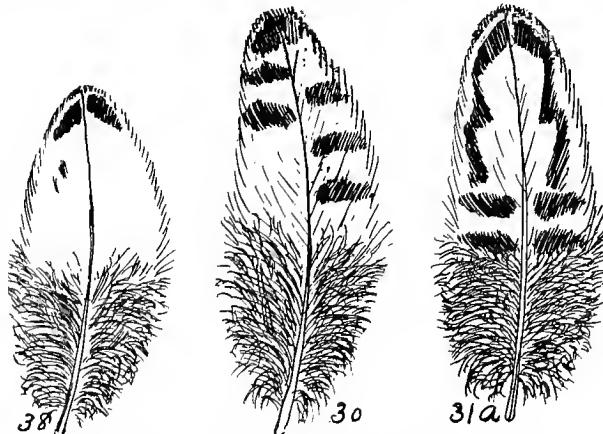
NECK.

The Standard description of this section is a queer one, especially so when compared to our best breeds. It says: "Neck other than hackle clear silvery white, free from mousing or lacing, each feather distinctly penciled across with parallel bars of greenish black. Hackle white in color." This is not a good description. It is far from correct if our best specimens are to be considered as being anywhere near right. "Feathers other than hackle"



would indicate that no penciling should appear in the hackle. But the very lightest colored ones I find show distinct penciling in neck and our well marked birds in other sections invariably show a nice barring or penciling in the hackle.

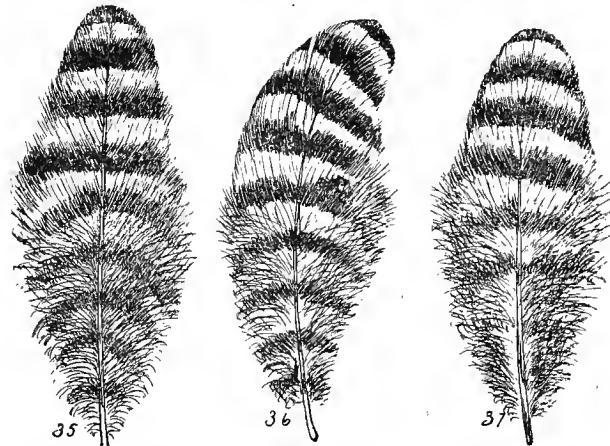
In the chart Fig. 25 is shown what I believe is the correct color for the Silver Penciled, and I think the best breeders of this variety will agree with me in regard to them. In feather No. 26 will be found a defect that I consider a serious one. The end of the feather shows a black spot just large enough to tick the section and show smutty from surface.



Such a feather should be discounted at least two points. Feather No. 27 shows a white surface with a few black spots. It is neither penciled or barred, still white, and should be discounted one and a half points. Feather No. 28 is some better and a neck like this when viewed from the surface is quite attractive, but the moment the feathers are raised the defect is apparent and a poor style of lacing is shown. The cut should be one point. Feather No. 29 was taken from a neck of a nicely penciled female, in fact one of the best I have ever found of this variety. However, this feather would show better if there was a more distinct lacing of white on the outer edge and first bar of black was not so wide. A neck like this would demand a cut of a half point.

BACK.

This section when properly penciled is very handsome. The intense black paralleling the white makes a pretty picture, more so I think than the finest barring on our Plymouth Rocks. I referred to the different barring on the Plymouth Rock as compared to the Hamburg and for a better com-



parison I show a plate of Barred Rock feathers taken from the back of a finely marked female, as in this way the amateur can note the style of barring in both breeds. In feather No. 30 we find a defect that is common in the light colored birds. There is

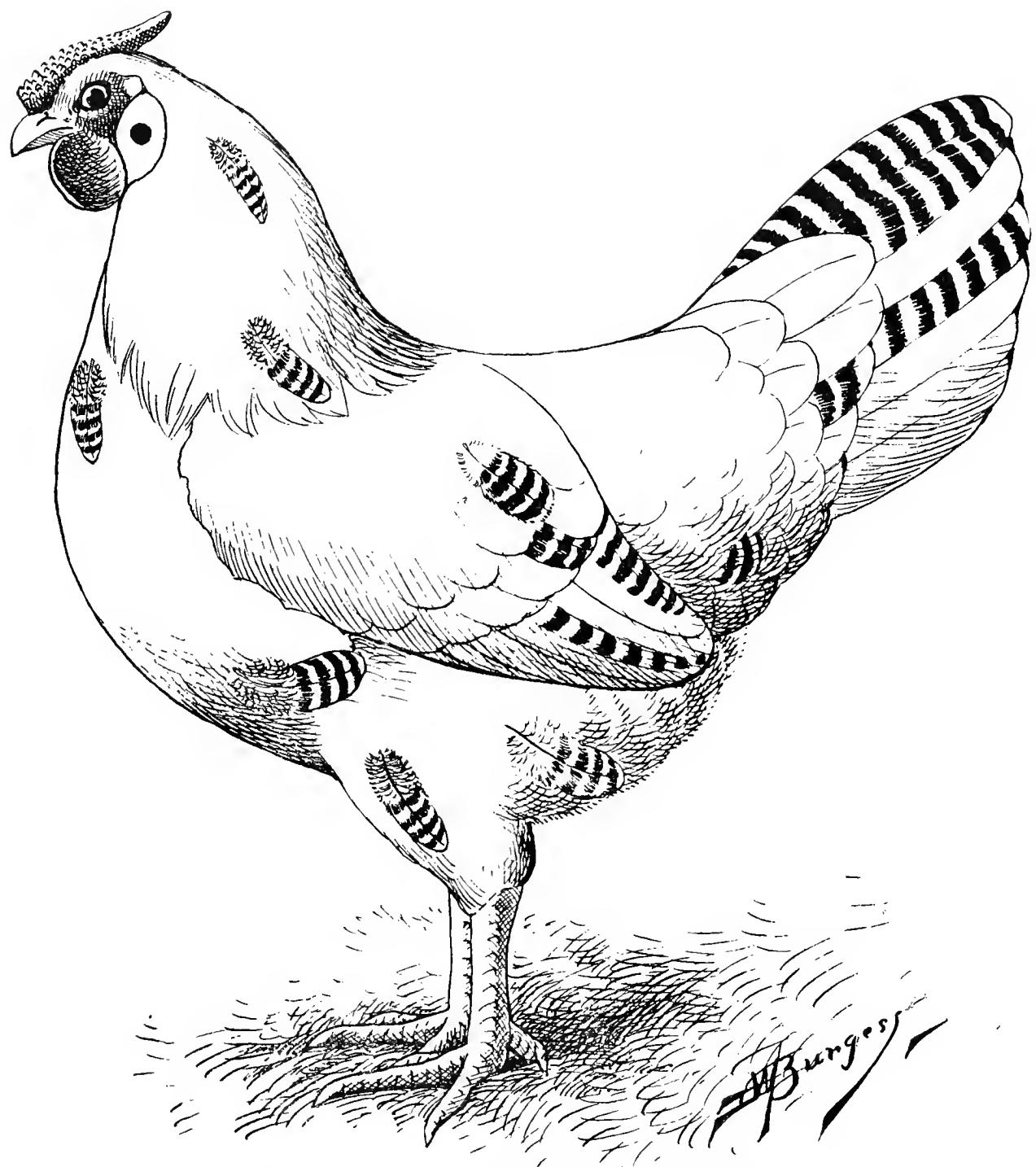


FIG. 25—PENCILED HAMBURG FEMALE CHART.

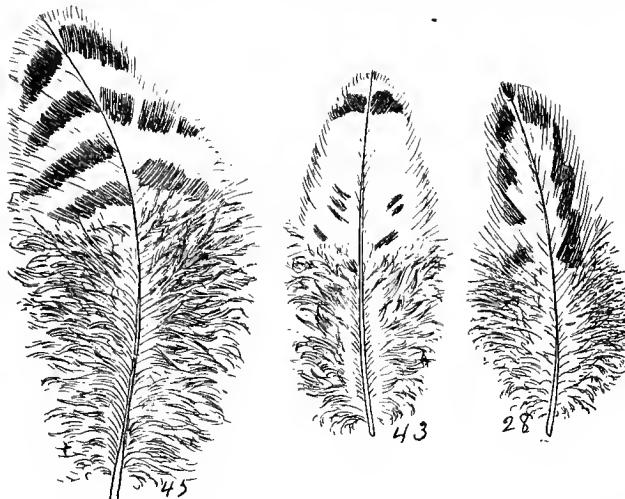
entirely too much white in the feather and the barring is irregular and poorly proportioned. A back showing feathers like this should be discounted two points. Feather No. 31a takes more after the style of our Wyandotte, the black running more in the style of lacing than barring. A back like this should be cut two points.

In feather No. 31 we find a fairly well proportioned feather, but there is not sufficient barring and feather is too light in undercolor. The discount should be three-fourths points. Feather No. 32 has same defect as No. 31, but is not so good on surface as the black runs to the end of feather, giving the surface a sort of smutty appearance. A back with feathers like this should be discounted one point. Feather No. 33 is a trifle light in undercolor, still it shows good barring throughout and black and white is pretty well proportioned. On a back like this the cut would be one-half point. Feather No. 34 was taken from the back of the same

we expect to reach perfection. To show that feathers run out in color when light birds are used in the breeding pen I call attention to feather No. 38. This was taken from well up under the throat and is almost entirely void of penciling. A breast showing feathers like this should be cut two points. Feather No. 39 is not quite so bad, as there is faint tracing of black in center of feather and two bars make a slight showing. A breast like this should be cut one and a half points. Feather No. 40 is quite a bit better, but far from perfection. The barring is not distinct enough and does not go down far enough. A breast like this should be cut one point. Feather No. 41 is taken from farther down on breast and is a very good feather for this variety; however, the penciling is not quite distinct enough and lower bar is not well defined. A breast like this should be cut one-half point.

BODY AND FLUFF.

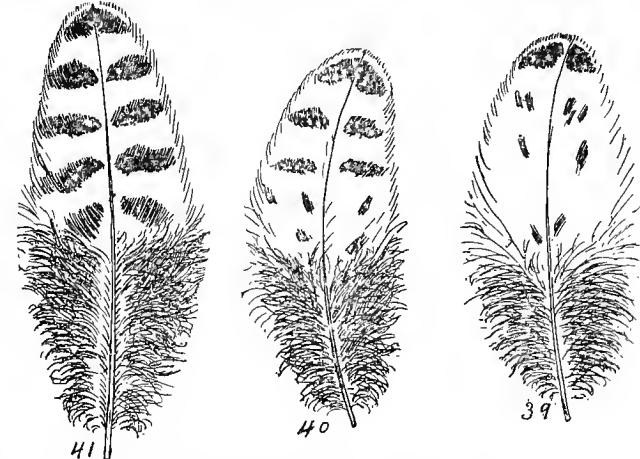
This section is usually the best colored of any on the female. In fact when other sections are at all good we may look for some fine color here. However, the color on body is not quite so handsome as on backs and wings. The barring or penciling is not quite so intense in color, there being a softer tone to it; nevertheless its blending into other sections harmonizes beautifully and there is no prettier study in black and white. This section is not without its defects, however, and many times is severely discounted on color. Feather No. 42 was taken from well back in fluff and shows a sort of ashy surface with poor undercolor. The penciling is very defective and not enough of it. What little there is fails in barring. A fluff showing feathers like this should be cut one and a half points. Feather No. 43 was taken from the upper part of thigh and lower part was almost white. This feather like 42 is far too white, and the black is poorly propor-



female as No. 29 and is just about as near Standard as anything I have found. The scalloped barring is clean cut and well defined. Outside edge is white and the black and white are well proportioned. I should not discount a back showing feathers like Fig. No. 34, and if a few birds were shown with this style of barring there would soon be a big demand for Penciled Hamburgs, as they are truly beautiful when bred with such rare color. Feathers 35, 36 and 37 are the Barred Rock feathers referred to and the readers will note the different style of barring in the two varieties.

BREAST.

Breast like back is quite prominent and it is very important that it should be well penciled. Usually the lower part where breast joins on body is good in color, but the upper part of breast will insist on running light and up under throat will be almost white. This color question in Penciled Hamburgs is an important one and I am thoroughly convinced that to breed the greatest number of good birds we should change our present description of breast color of males, allowing it to be penciled similarly to the females. Then again we ask the female to have a white hackle and a penciled throat; in fact, demanding of nature that she reverse herself in one section. The result is that not one out of a hundred of our very best females shows penciling on upper breast that will any way near compare with our chart Fig. 25. Still the feathers shown in chart are not overdrawn when compared to a perfect bird and are just such feathers as we must strive for if

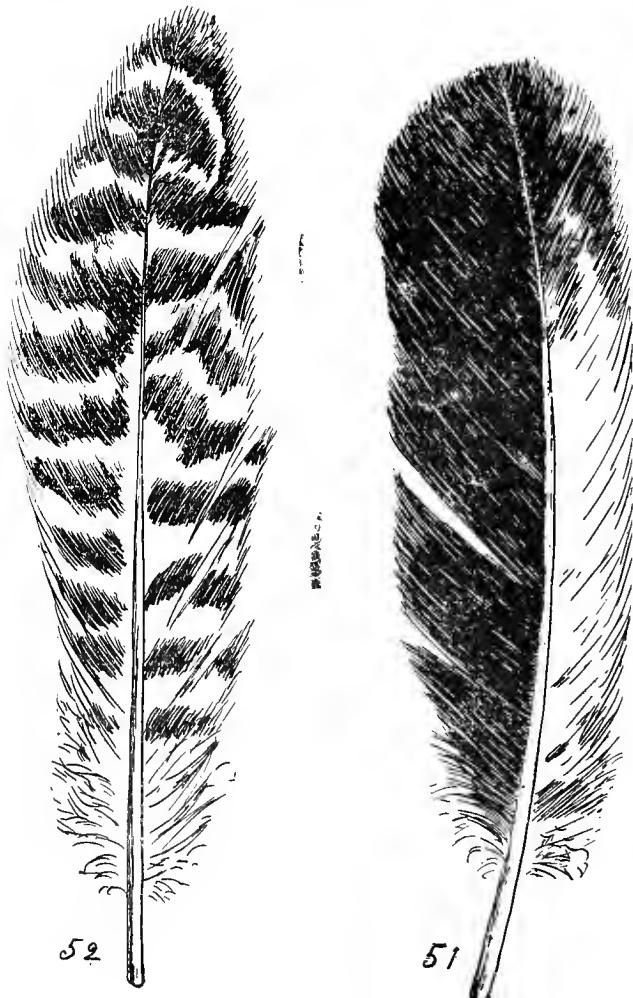


tioned, and should be cut two points. Feather No. 44 was taken from fluff and showed fairly well from surface, but is too light under, and penciling uneven. A body with a color like this should be discounted one and a half points. Feather No. 45 is better, but outside lacing of white is too wide, and barring or penciling is zigzag. Penciling does not extend deep enough, making under color too light. A body like this should be cut one point.

WINGS.

Here again I differ very materially with the Standard description which says the primaries shall be white; secondaries penciled across with bars of black. When the secondaries show this penciling to best advantage there is more or less penciling in

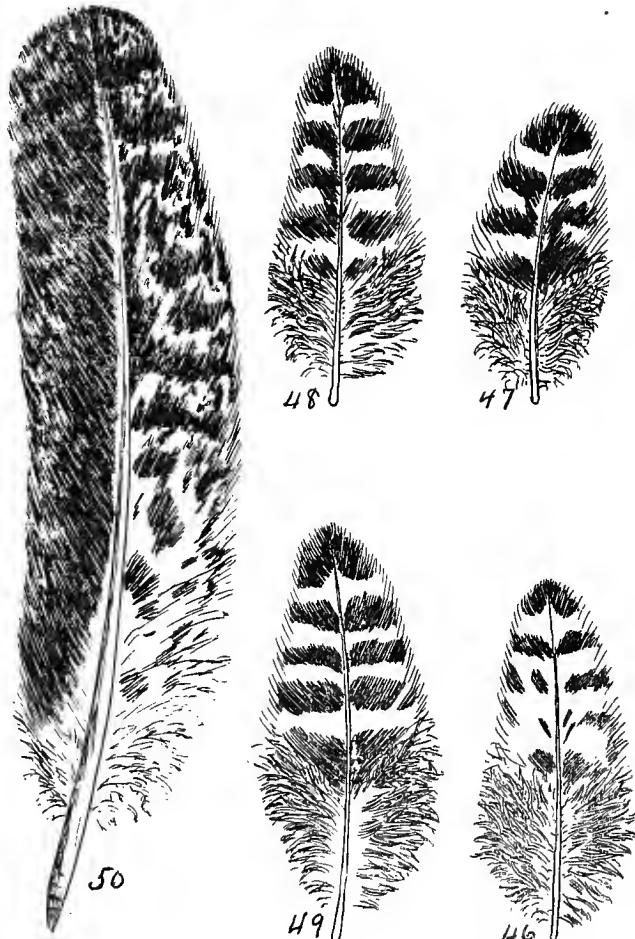
the primaries, and when primaries are white there is a decided falling off in color in the secondaries. My opinion is the upper web of primaries should be penciled similarly to the lower web of secondaries. The shoulders or wing bow should be nicely and distinctly barred with metallic black, the short feathers being brilliant in that direction. The color is usually good here if good at all, but in some of the best birds bad feathers are found. Feather No. 46 is too light in barring and indistinct. Should be discounted one point. Feather No. 47 is too black at the point and smuts up in the center of feather, and should be discounted three-fourths point. Feather No. 48 is dark at the point and blurs up a trifle at the side of shaft and should be discounted one-half point. No. 49 is a good feather, but does not bar deep enough; outside is a trifle dark. It should be cut one-half point. Feather No. 50 is a secondary taken from the wing of a strictly fancy show hen. This feather shows black on upper web and fails in barring on lower web. In my opinion



this feather shows about the right proportion of black and white, and the Standard description could be well changed to conform to it. Let the upper web be black, lower edge white, distinctly penciled with black. This would give us a description of a wing that fits the best birds of this variety. As it now reads feather No. 50 should be cut one point for black on upper web and one point for poor or irregular barring on lower web.

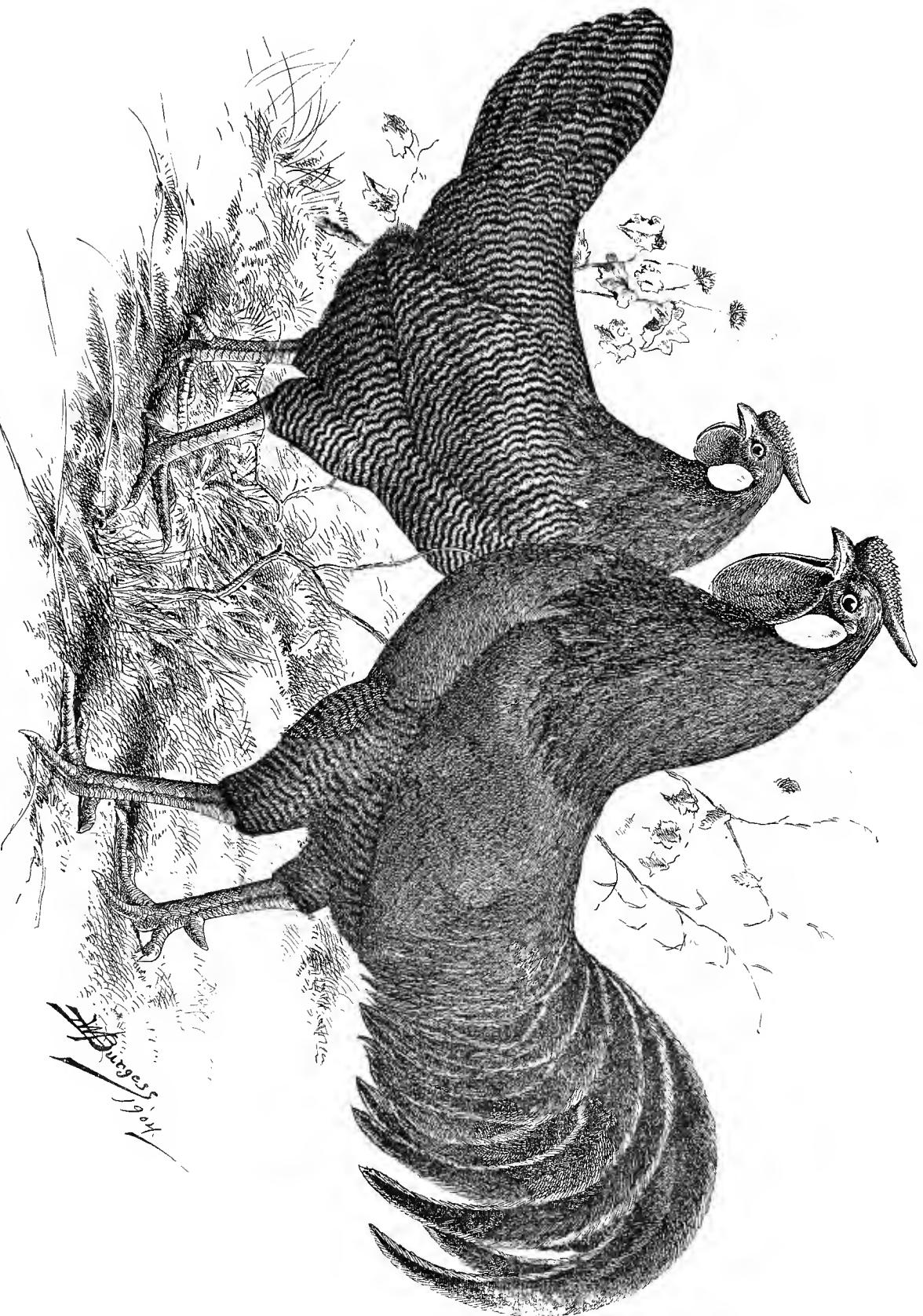
TAIL.

It is very doubtful if there ever was a perfect colored tail on a Penciled Hamburg female. Every feather, both main tail and coverts, should be white, penciled across with black. In both the Silvers and the Goldens there is a tendency to a solid black

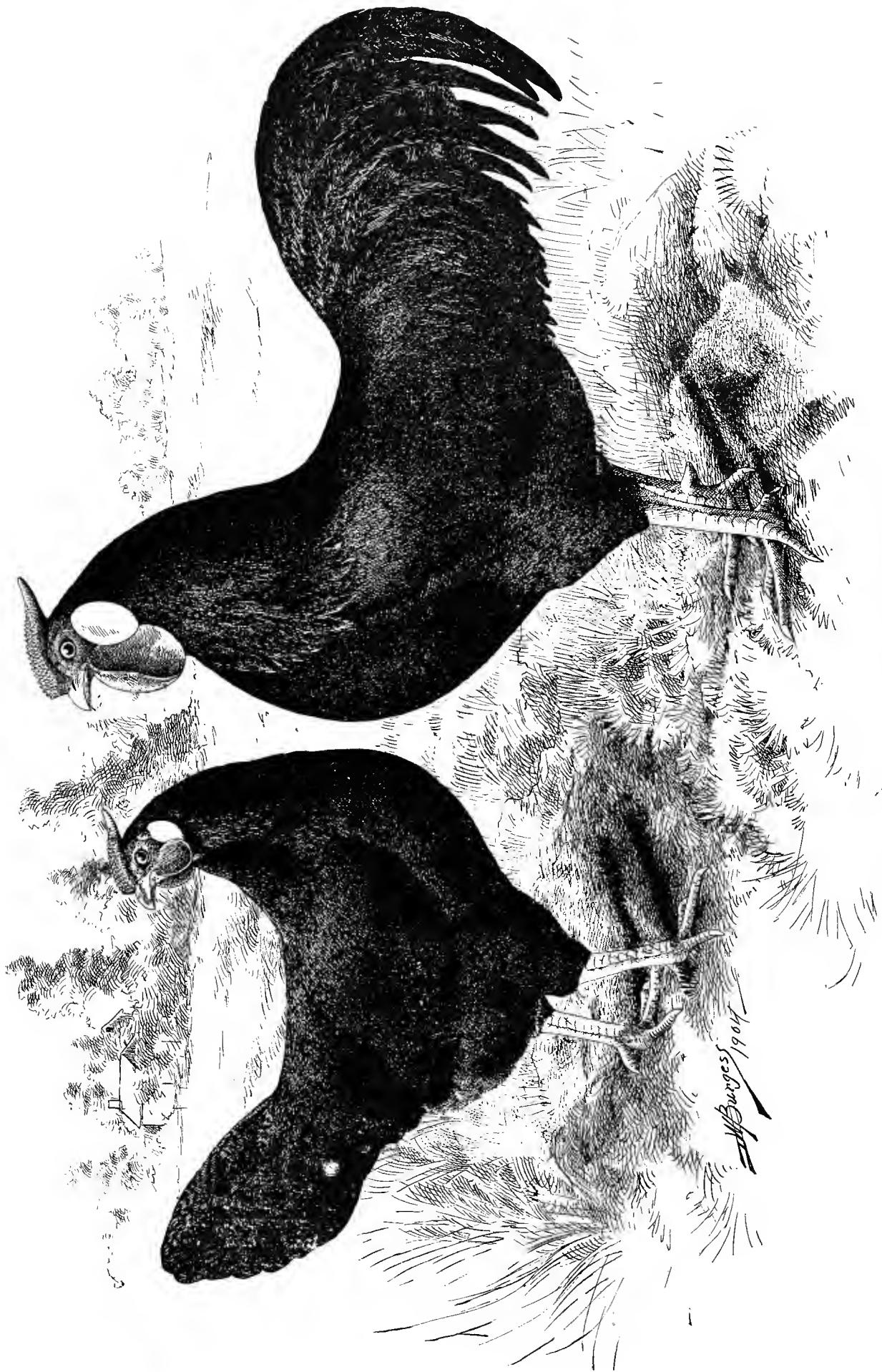


feather or more black than white, while well penciled tails are decidedly scarce. In feather No. 51 we show a defect quite common in this variety. The black shows solid from surface and divides at shaft, each color keeping its respective side. A feather like this is very objectionable. There is too much black to start with and no sign of barring anywhere. A tail feather like this should be cut two and a half points. In feather No. 52 we find a good one for this variety. Not perfect by any means, but far better than the average of the best. The barring here is irregular and zigzag. The feather is too black at the edge and white and black poorly divided. However, there is about the right proportion of black and white and if the barring was regular we would have almost a perfect feather. Feather No. 52 should be discounted one point.

I feel that I have given the reader so thorough an idea of the general defects in color of our Penciled varieties that they will not go far wrong in their selection, and if my writing has interested and instructed them I feel well repaid.



STANDARD GOLDEN PENCILED HAMBURGS.



STANDARD BLACK HAMBURGS.

BLACK HAMBURGS.

Valuable as this variety is we seldom find them except in some of the large shows or state fairs where one or two exhibitors vie with each other for honor and premium money. None of the solid black breeds have any greater claim for popularity and surely none of them are more worthy of a place in the breeder's yard. Some birds with good qualities, both as meat and egg producers, fall by the wayside on account of their unsightly appearance, but this cannot be said of the Black Hamburgs, as there is no fowl bred more strikingly handsome, and so far as Standard qualifications go, but few if any of the breeds can be compared to them, as they breed so true to color and shape that one can hardly find a defect.

In looking back over the few exhibits of Black Hamburgs that I have seen in the past ten years, perhaps no better quality has been shown than the winning cockerels at the World's Fair show at Chicago in 1893. I made a pretty careful study of the males in this class, and if I remember correctly they were shown by Wm. McNeil, of Canada. The cockerels were just at their best in shape and color; the females not quite so good, but showing well for so early a show. I wondered then why more breeders did not take up this handsome variety, and mentally promised myself to do something to bring them more prominently before the public.

On the opposite page is shown a pair of Blacks, the male being drawn to represent the Chicago, 1893, winner, as I remember him. The female in the drawing represents the one shown by Messrs. J. Frank & Son, of Sherbony, Ohio, at the Pan-American Show in 1901. The female in the drawing, while good in shape, comb and lobes is too small; in fact I have not found a female, good in other respects, large enough to suit me. I presume in this, like many other of our old-time varieties, it is pretty near impossible with the small amount of new blood that is imported, to keep up the size and until more breeders see some of the good that is in this variety and import more liberally, we will have to content ourselves with the smaller birds. I trust this book may have the effect of creating a more wide-spread interest in this breed of fowls, and the Blacks with the rest of the varieties may take the place they so justly might hold.

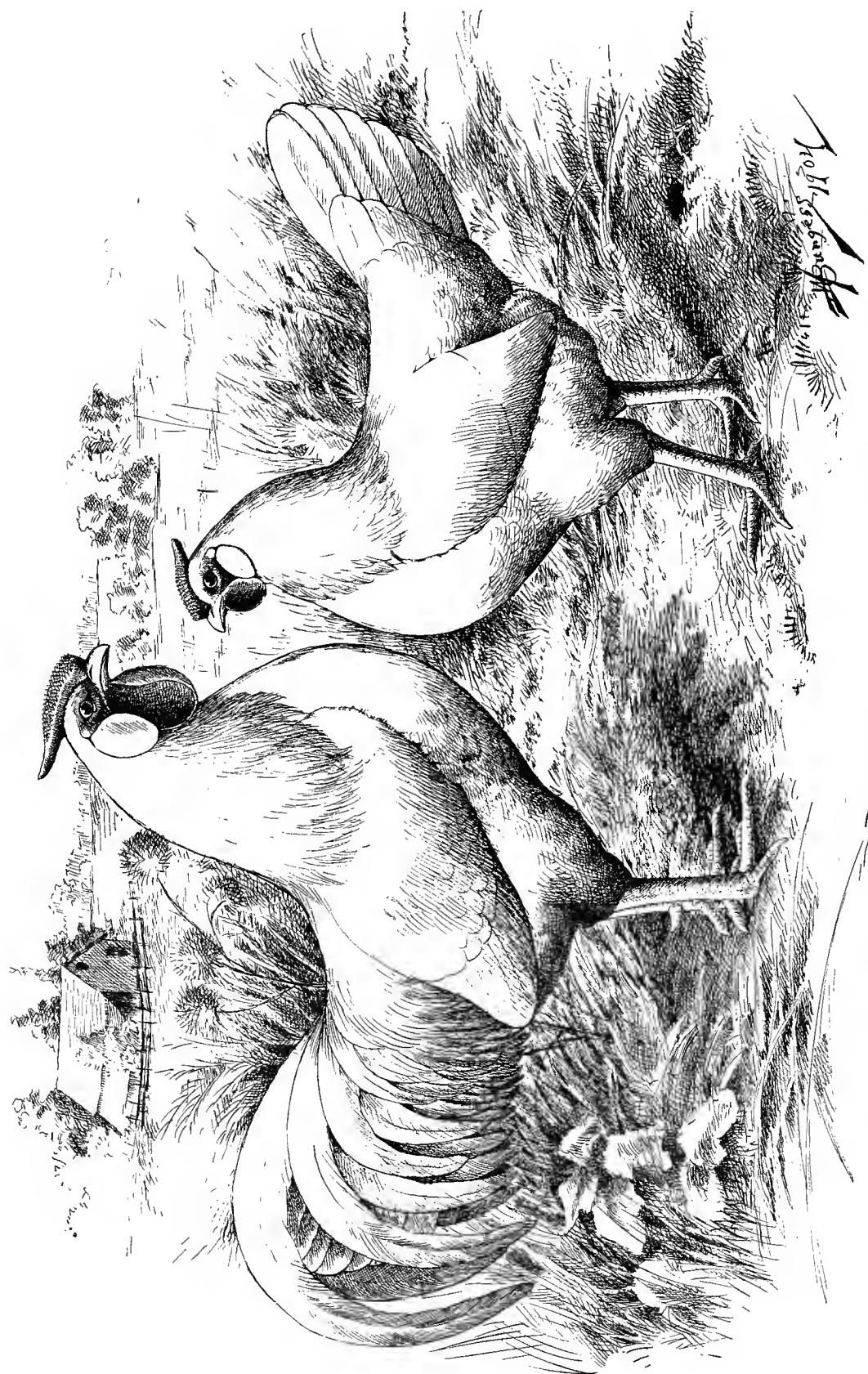
In my description of the Spangled and Penciled varieties, I have called attention to shape defects, and in view of the fact that one shape description fits all varieties of this breed, further efforts would simply be repetition.

In color, our drawing shows them better, perhaps, than I could explain by word. The Standard says, in describing color of both male and female that they should be greenish black throughout. There is no richer color on any black variety than the Hamburgs. There is the elegant beetle green in neck, back, wing bows and tail coverts of both male and female that is not quite equalled in any other black fowls. You will note the Standard says greenish black throughout, while in describing the color of the Black Langshans, it says glossy metallic black, with greenish sheen. In describing the

color of Black Wyandottes it reads: "Rich, glossy black with greenish sheen." In Langshans it adds, purple bars, any tinge a serious defect. This should be added to the color description of all black fowls, as nothing detracts so much from the beauty as the purple barring, and no color is harder to keep out, especially on wings, hackle and back of males. This purple color is one that has bothered our American fanciers perhaps more than any one feature, and the problem is yet unsolved, as every year I hear some breeder complaining that his matings have gone wrong. I remember once visiting a friend of mine who was breeding Langshans. He had told me what a wonderful mating he had gotten together, and what great hopes he had for the future. Together we looked the birds over, and surely I never saw better balanced color in my life, and I, like my friend, expected great things from them. I wrote him about the first of October, asking how he had come out with his mating, expressing the hope that his young birds were as good as we had expected them to be. His answer was a setback. He says, "Haven't a decent looking bird in the entire lot. I never saw such 'rotten' color in my life." I visited him later and together we looked over his young stock, and really they were a sight! Great, big, elegantly shaped fellows, good combs and well balanced tails, but a color with as many bars as a rainbow and nearly as many colors. He sold the entire lot to a huckster for one dollar per head. The next year the same pen was allowed to run in an old orchard, their eggs were used on the table early in the season, but later a few eggs were set in order to get broilers for home use. A few hens that stole their nests were allowed to sit and raise the chicks that were hatched as best they could. The result was the grandest lot of chicks ever owned by the breeder. The same grand shape as the season before, coupled with as fine beetle green color as I ever saw on this breed.

The first season he had fed too high foods, and too much of it. The result was not enough exercise and poor color. The next year his birds hustled for themselves, got food only when they worked for it, resulting in perfect health and perfect color.

There is another color defect that sometimes shows in black fowls, especially in the neck and wings of Hamburg males. That is a red or brassy feather, the color often running the entire length of feather. I have found specimens with two or three of these feathers showing in neck that were otherwise perfect in color. I hardly believe this is caused by any impurity in the blood; it is simply a case of too high color in the mating, and nature takes pains to point out that thus far and no farther can you go. The Standard should disqualify for this red plumage, but fails to make its language plain enough on color disqualifications to warrant a judge in making this defect of so much importance. If our Black Hamburgs were better known they would be bred in greater numbers, as they are a veritable egg machine and as for beauty no black fowl in the Standard can surpass them.



STANDARD WHITE HAMBURGS.

WHITE HAMBURGS.

There is another family of the Hamburgs that is seldom seen, still from a utility standpoint there is no better breed in America, size considered.

There is more of an excuse, however, for this breed being cast aside than there is with the Blacks of the same breed. The Rose Comb White Leghorns with their foreign blood and yellow legs have a trifle the best of the argument, both as to size and market value, as our American housewives are slow to select a broiler with other than yellow legs. However, the sprightly little White Hamburgs are worthy a place in our Standard and should be more widely known. One seldom sees a good exhibit of them, and when you do see a few good ones you are in doubt as to their being Standard bred, as Rose Comb Leghorns off in color of legs are sometimes substituted for Hamburgs.

In all the big shows I have attended in the past three years I have not seen two dozen White Hamburgs, there being only three entries at the Pan-American Show in 1901.

There is no better field open today for importers than to bring over from England about a dozen of her best specimens of White Hamburgs, as it is evidenced by reports coming from there that there are a good lot of them shown in all their leading exhibitions.

This variety when bred as it should be is one of the purest in color of any of the white fowls. The Standard description of plumage is: "White throughout; quills also. Legs blue or leaden blue." It is this color of legs that has much to do with the White Hamburg's slight hold on the fanciers, as there seems to be a prejudice against anything but a yellow leg in this country. However, if our breeders would look only to this breed for eggs, and assist in building up fine laying strains of them, they would soon learn their real value.

In our drawing of the Whites as shown on the opposite page, we portray them as we remember the best specimens of the breed found in our shows. The ones we have seen are a trifle under size as compared to the other varieties of the Hamburgs as exhibited by our best breeders. They have the

same general characteristics as the other members of the Hamburg family, except the female seems a trifle shorter in back, and carries her tail a little higher than her sister in the Spangled and Black varieties. The legs of the White are somewhat shorter, or appear shorter, due to their size, and in scoring one is tempted to cut for size almost every specimen that comes up for a card.

In this as in all varieties of Hamburgs, comb and ear lobes are of considerable importance, and should be very carefully guarded if one expects to maintain the true type, as presented in the drawing. Color of lobes is another matter that requires constant care, as red or yellow will creep in and streak up the surface, and the lobe will run bad in shape, being too long and uneven. The best colored lobes are nearly always the best shaped ones, and when we allow them to get too large, we simply crowd them down nearer the wattles, resulting in the red creeping in at the edges, and unless carefully watched will soon overspread a great part of the lobe, and it is well to remember at all times that red covering one-third or more of the surface is a disqualification.

In color a slight ticking of grey or black sometimes shows on hackle and wing bows. As I understand the Standard this slight ticking of grey does not disqualify. The Standard says under head of General Disqualifications: "In all white varieties any feather on a specimen having positive black or red in any part of the plumage." It will be noted the words "positive black or red" are used. It will also be noted the Standard says "feather," the singular being used in this sentence to eliminate the old-time theory that it required more than one feather off color to disqualify the specimen. Slight tracings or tickings in the white fowls will not disqualify, but positive black will.

I hope soon to see the day when our Hamburgs will be one of our leading classes at the shows, both small and large.

Fraternally yours,
THEO. HEWES.



Pressboard
Pamphlet
Binder
Gaylord Bros.
Makers
Syracuse, N. Y.
PAT. JAN. 21, 1908

